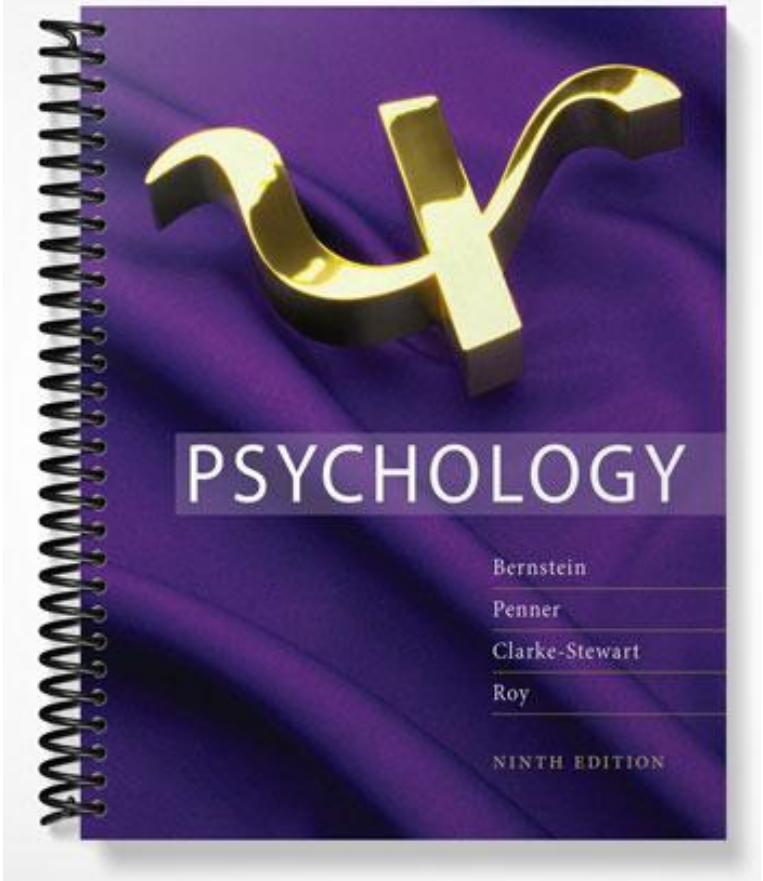
TEST BANK


PSYCHOLOGY
Bernstein
Penner
Clarke-Stewart
Roy
NINTH EDITION

CHAPTER 2

Research in Psychology

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Explain the importance of critical thinking in psychology, and list the five questions used by critical thinkers when evaluating information.
2. Define hypothesis, and explain the role of hypotheses in scientific research.
3. Explain what operational definitions are, and give examples of several.
4. Define what variables are, and give examples of variables that a psychologist might study.
5. Define the terms statistical reliability and statistical validity. Explain their importance in psychological research.
6. Explain the development and role of theories in psychological research.
7. Describe each of psychological science's goals of describing, predicting, controlling, and explaining psychological phenomena.
8. Explain how observational methods work, and give several examples of how psychologists might use naturalistic observation in conducting psychological research.
9. Explain how case study methods work, and give several examples of how psychologists might use case studies in conducting psychological research.
10. Explain how survey methods work, and give several examples of how psychologists might use surveys in conducting psychological research.
11. Explain how correlational study methods work, and give several examples of how psychologists might use correlational studies in conducting psychological research.
12. Explain how experiments work, and give several examples of how psychologists might use experiments in conducting psychological research.
13. Explain the relationship between control groups and experimental groups in psychological research.
14. Describe and explain the similarities and differences between independent variables, dependent variables, random variables, and confounds.
15. Explain why psychologists should randomize participants in their experiments.
16. Discuss the placebo effect.
17. Explain how the double-blind design for an experiment reduces the effects of experimenter bias.
18. Discuss the process of sampling in choosing participants for psychological research. Define representative sampling, biased sampling, and random sampling.
19. Explain how the field of behavioral genetics investigates psychological phenomena. Describe the use of family studies, twin studies, and adoption studies.
20. Define epigenetics.
21. Define the three measures of central tendency, the mean, median, and mode. Explain the importance of these descriptive statistics in describing data collected in psychological research.

22. Define the range and standard deviation, and explain how psychologists use these measures of variability.
23. Define the correlation coefficient, and discuss both its uses and limitations in psychological research.
24. Explain the use of inferential statistics in psychological research.
25. Describe the basic ideas behind ethical practices in psychological science. Explain the reasons why psychologists must engage in these practices.
26. Describe the main functions of Institutional Review Boards.
27. List some of the laws and guidelines that regulate research practices in psychology.
28. List some ethical dilemmas involved in psychological research, and discuss the ways in which psychological scientists may address them.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. On the first day of Introductory Philosophy class, Nora asks her students to provide a definition of the term critical thinking. Having aced Introductory Psychology last semester, Cassie knows that critical thinking is
   a. a specific, testable proposition about something under study.
   b. the process of assessing claims and making judgments on the basis of well-supported evidence.
   c. a cognitive response reliant on heuristics that allows a person to draw reasonable conclusions.
   d. the process of describing the exact operations or methods a scientist will use in a research study.
   ANS: B
   OBJ: 1
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   KEY: Knowledge
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

2. If you were reviewing evidence for an insurance investigation, you would not blindly accept someone's claims. You would look for well-supported evidence. The textbook refers to this process as
   a. naturalistic observation.
   b. intelligence.
   c. engaging in parsimonious thought processes.
   d. critical thinking.
   ANS: D
   OBJ: 1
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   KEY: Knowledge
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

3. Which of the following is not one of the five questions that provide a strategy for critical thinking?
   a. Are there alternative ways of interpreting the evidence?
   b. What am I being asked to believe or accept?
   c. What is the reputation of the researcher(s)?
   d. What evidence is available to support the assertion?
   ANS: C
   OBJ: 1
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   KEY: Knowledge
   MSC: TYPE: F

4. Dr. Wisgoski asked fifty drug addicts a series of questions about their childhoods and then collected blood samples from them. He found a high correlation between levels of the stress hormone cortisol and amount of reported childhood trauma. Dr. Wisgoski concluded that childhood trauma causes high levels of stress during adulthood, which, in turn, causes drug addiction. Dr. Wisgoski's operational definition of adult stress level is
   a. childhood trauma.
   b. blood cortisol.
   c. drug addiction.
   d. self-report.
   ANS: B
   OBJ: 3
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   Test Item Analysis: A: 27% B: 58% C: 13% D: 2% rpb = .39
   KEY: Comprehension
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

5. The prediction that "bright colors will make people happier" is called a(n)
   a. hypothesis.
   b. law.
   c. theory.
   d. explanation.
   ANS: A
   OBJ: 2
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   Test Item Analysis: A: 83% B: 1% C: 15% D: 1% rpb = .20
   KEY: Comprehension
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

6. Dr. Zumbahlen is conducting a research study in which she is interested in the effects of aerobic activity on weight loss. Aerobic activity is defined by thirty minutes of exercise on the treadmill three times a week. This specific way of defining aerobic activity is referred to as a(n) _____ definition.
   a. experimental
   b. construct
   c. operational
   d. empirical
   ANS: C
   OBJ: 3
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   Test Item Analysis: A: 11% B: 15% C: 57% D: 17% rpb = .49
   KEY: Comprehension
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

7. Shantae is doing an experiment on how anxious people will feel if they are told that they did not do well on an intelligence test. She asks her participants to rate how nervous, upset, and anxious they feel on a scale from 1 (not at all) to 7 (very). Participant's scores on the scale are a(n)
   a. operational definition of anxiety.
   b. independent variable.
   c. confounding variable.
   d. intervening variable.
   ANS: A
   OBJ: 3
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   Test Item Analysis: A: 43% B: 29% C: 21% D: 7% rpb = .37
   KEY: Comprehension
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

8. Joe, a psychologist, believes that listening to classical music while studying will increase academic performance. This is an example of a(n)
   a. hypothesis.
   b. theory.
   c. experimental design.
   d. case study.
   ANS: A
   OBJ: 2
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   Test Item Analysis: A: 67% B: 30% C: 0% D: .2% rpb = .28
   KEY: Comprehension
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

9. Twenty volunteers are shown a movie about a party. After viewing, participants are asked to rate their reactions to the movie using a scale from 1 to 7. In this example, what would be the data?
   a. The participants
   b. The movie
   c. The party
   d. The ratings
   ANS: D
   OBJ: 4
   REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
   KEY: Comprehension
   MSC: TYPE: C/A

10. After the magician pulled a rabbit from her hat, Dora exclaimed, "I'd like to see her do that again!" In other words, Dora is challenging the _____ of the magician.
    a. reliability
    b. hypothesis
    c. validity
    d. data
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 5
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

11. Jason answered a series of vocabulary and reading comprehension questions on a web site. When he finished, the site gave him a rating of intelligence. "I don't think that test really measured intelligence," thought Jason. Jason is questioning the test's
    a. consistency.
    b. validity.
    c. datum.
    d. reliability.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 5
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

12. Megan believes she has found a medication that will greatly reduce the symptoms of depression, so she decides to conduct an experiment to test her _____. She randomly assigns depressed people to one of two groups. One group of participants takes the medication, while the other group gets only sugar pills. The latter group is receiving a _____.
    a. hypothesis; placebo
    b. theory; random variable
    c. bias; treatment
    d. intervening variable; placebo
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 2, 16
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    Test Item Analysis: A: 95% B: 5% C: 0% D: 0% rpb = .20
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

13. During a lunch discussion on the TV show *Lost*, your friend Aldo exclaims, "I have a theory about the mysteries of the island." Having just come from your Psychology class, you turn to Aldo and say, "you don't really have a theory. You have a hunch. I know this because a theory is
    a. the constant formulation, reformulation, and abandonment of explanations of behavior and mental processes."
    b. an elaborate set of hypotheses."
    c. a law that has been established through experimentation."
    d. an integrated set of principles that can be used to explain and predict phenomena."
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 6
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

14. Ernest has collected and examined his research data, and now has a set of general principles that he believes accounts for the acquisition of personality traits. Ernest has formed a(n) _____ of personality.
    a. theory
    b. operational definition
    c. experimental design
    d. opinion
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 6
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

15. Dr. Gholson tells his students to maintain caution as they begin to draw conclusions on their own research. He encourages them to follow the law of parsimony, which means
    a. statistically significant results are not due to chance factors.
    b. results must be reported with the highest ethical standards.
    c. all members of a population had an equal chance of being selected for the study.
    d. the correct explanation tends to be the simplest one.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 6
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

16. Julian and Meghan are discussing several theories they have found that offer explanations for why children become bullies in schools. Julian is not sure how to sift through all the theories because they all seem equally convincing. Meghan suggests that they go with the explanation that is the simplest. Meghan's decision was made based on
    a. observational methods.
    b. statistical significance.
    c. biased sampling.
    d. the law of parsimony.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 7
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

17. Psychology is based on research questions about many phenomena. When a psychologist asks if she can control for a phenomenon, she is ready to
    a. devise a theory that will predict future phenomena.
    b. describe the phenomenon empirically.
    c. explain why the phenomenon occurs and why certain treatments are more effective.
    d. conduct an experiment testing various treatment methods in a clinical setting.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 7
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    Test Item Analysis: A: 4% B: 87% C: 5% D: 4% rpb = .35
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: F

18. A social psychologist studying AIDS from a psychological perspective designs an interview and carefully selects several people to participate in the study. Each interview lasts two hours. Which goal of research is she pursuing?
    a. Control
    b. Prediction
    c. Explanation
    d. Description
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 7
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    Test Item Analysis: A: 14% B: 3% C: 14% D: 69% rpb = .34
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

19. Vernice volunteered in a psychology research lab this semester. During her first day, the research assistant trained Vernice on the goals of psychological research, which are
    a. description, prediction, and interpretation.
    b. control, deduction, and explanation.
    c. description, prediction, control, and explanation.
    d. description, interpretation, collection, and explanation.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 7
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

20. Chiu-yuen has unobtrusively observed the behavior of elderly nursing home residents. Based on this data, it appears that the less sociable residents may engage in hobby activity more often than the more sociable residents. Chiu-yuen now wishes to gather data to determine if sociability is negatively related to the amount of time spent in hobby activities. This research is at the _____ stage.
    a. descriptive
    b. controlled
    c. explanatory
    d. predictive
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 7
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 19% C: 11% D: 70% rpb = .31
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

21. Nadine is studying the effects of alcohol consumption on college students. She carried out a series of experiments and has begun developing a theory. Nadine's research goal is
    a. control.
    b. description.
    c. explanation.
    d. prediction.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 7
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    Test Item Analysis: A: 4% B: 14% C: 62% D: 21% rpb = .21
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

22. The goals of the scientific study of behavior are
    a. description and prediction.
    b. control and explanation.
    c. description, control, and explanation.
    d. description, prediction, control, and explanation.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 7
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Thinking Critically About Psychology (or Anything Else)
    Test Item Analysis: A: 2% B: 1% C: 92% D: 5% rpb = .21
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

23. A researcher studied how Pakistani students adapt to college by living in multicultural dorms on campus. He used the data collected to find trends of adjustment and what factors may help to ease the transition into college. What research method is being employed?
    a. Naturalistic observation
    b. Experiment
    c. Correlational study
    d. Introspection
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 11
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

24. Cornelius is interested in studying cooperation in children between the ages of two and six. He suspects that cooperation is greatest in groups of girls as opposed to groups of boys or coed groups. After carrying out his observation, he decides to examine the results to determine any relationships between gender and cooperation. Cornelius is planning to carry out a(n)
    a. double-blind design.
    b. random assignment.
    c. experiment.
    d. correlational study.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 11
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 1% B: 4% C: 1% D: 94% rpb = .24
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

25. A noted psychologist and environmentalist, Dr. Pigeon, has received a grant to study older persons' bird-feeding behavior in public parks. Dr. Pigeon has research assistants sit in public parks to unobtrusively collect the data. Dr. Pigeon has chosen a _____ research method.
    a. case study
    b. naturalistic observation
    c. controlled experiment
    d. survey
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 8
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 91% C: 0% D: 9% rpb = .41
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

26. A disadvantage most associated with the _____ research method is that people who know they are being studied may alter their normal behavior.
    a. case study
    b. survey
    c. double-blind
    d. naturalistic observation
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 8
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 30% B: 11% C: 0% D: 59% rpb = .22
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

27. A major limitation of naturalistic observation in the study of human behavior is that
    a. accurate observations usually cannot be made.
    b. there is no sure way to know what is causing the behavior being studied.
    c. studying people in their natural environment tells nothing about the influence of context on behavior.
    d. it always requires two observers and is therefore very expensive.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 8
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 14% B: 72% C: 13% D: 1% rpb = .24
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

28. What research topic would lend itself best to naturalistic observation?
    a. Comparing smokers and nonsmokers on judgments of self-esteem
    b. Describing play among children in a kindergarten class
    c. Describing gender attitudes for all Chicagoans
    d. Understanding the life of someone with a rare brain disorder
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 8
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 1% B: 95% C: 2% D: 2% rpb = .21
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

29. Piaget based much of his theory of cognitive development on his observations of how his children interacted with the world as they grew. Piaget's research method was _____ and his scientific goal was _____.
    a. naturalistic observation; description
    b. controlled experiment; explanation
    c. survey; explanation
    d. naturalistic observation; prediction
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 7, 8
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: F

30. Psychologists are most likely to use case studies instead of other research methods when they wish to study
    a. cause-effect relationships between variables.
    b. phenomena that are new, complex, or rare.
    c. group behavior and public opinion.
    d. people without being intrusive.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 9
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

31. Dr. Redford has long been interested in dissociative identity disorder. For the past three years, the only participant in his research has been his client, Sybil. He has studied her case intensively. What research method is Dr. Redford using?
    a. Case study
    b. Naturalistic observation
    c. Survey
    d. Experimental
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 9
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 96% B: 4% C: 0% D: 0% rpb = .24
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

32. Yasou calls people and asks them a specified list of questions concerning their opinions of how irritating telemarketers can be. What kind of research is Yasou conducting?
    a. Naturalistic observation
    b. Case study
    c. Survey
    d. Experiment
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 10
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

33. O'Malley sits in the corner of a classroom observing children at play. Which of the following statements is false?
    a. O'Malley has to make sure that his presence doesn't affect the behavior of the children.
    b. O'Malley might be obtaining a more realistic view of how children play by observing them in their natural environment.
    c. If O'Malley expects to see a certain behavior he may unintentionally bias the study.
    d. O'Malley has random assignment working in his favor.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 8
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Analysis
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

34. Thanh was in a car accident a year ago in which she suffered some brain damage. Because of the rare nature of her impairment, Dr. Morello kept very detailed notes concerning the treatments administered, the effects of those treatments, and other particular aspects of Thanh's condition. He hopes to publish his findings so that if another psychologist encounters a patient with a condition like Thanh's, that psychologist will have some information to aid him or her in treating that individual. Which research method is Dr. Morello using?
    a. Controlled experiment
    b. Case study
    c. Naturalistic observation
    d. Survey
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 9
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 97% C: 3% D: 0% rpb = .29
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

35. Jocelyn is interested in a rare form of phobia. She is particularly interested in the factors associated with the development of this phobia. The research method that would be most useful for her is
    a. a case study.
    b. field research.
    c. an experiment.
    d. naturalistic observation.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 9
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 81% B: 14% C: 3% D: 3% rpb = .24
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

36. Chan-ju and Lucas are researchers studying consumer behavior. Chan-ju goes to a store and watches the shoppers for several days. She takes very careful notes about what she sees the shoppers doing, but she does not talk to the shoppers or interact with them in any way. Lucas goes to a store and asks each shopper a series of questions. He makes sure to ask these questions of each shopper in the store. Chan-ju's study is an example of a(n) _____, and Lucas's study is an example of a _____ .
    a. case study; naturalistic observation
    b. experiment; case study
    c. survey; survey
    d. naturalistic observation; survey
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 8, 10
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 0% C: 3% D: 97% rpb = .39
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

37. Nina wants to know whether there is a market for a brand new product, the Arctic Blast, which freezes all types of food within seconds. To find out what percentage of people and what types of people might be interested in such a product, Nina needs to use _____ as her method of research.
    a. a survey
    b. naturalistic observation
    c. a case study
    d. an experiment
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 10
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 94% B: 0% C: 3% D: 3% rpb = .42
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

38. Surveys are able to address the problems associated with _____, which are inherent in case studies.
    a. small sampling sizes
    b. the lack of control groups
    c. the lack of experimental groups
    d. confounds
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 9, 10
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

39. Hilary wants to know whether women are getting paid the same amount of money as men for equal work. She asks men and women in several business firms for information about their salaries. What research method is Hilary using?
    a. Survey
    b. Case study
    c. Experimental
    d. Naturalistic observation
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 10
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 95% B: 4% C: 0% D: 1% rpb = .20
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

40. A doctor has completed a three-year research project on patients with dissociative fugue. She has decided the next step is to run correlational studies on her data. The doctor is doing this to
    a. determine if her sampling is representative.
    b. find trends and relationships among variables.
    c. find a cause-and-effect relationship.
    d. eliminate the possibility of experimenter bias.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 11
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

41. N.A. had a damaged hippocampus, and psychiatrists visited him weekly for two years. During these visits, they tested his memory and IQ. One of the limitations of this case study is that it
    a. may cause N.A. to behave differently because he knows he is being observed.
    b. is susceptible to confounds and experimenter bias.
    c. may only contain information the psychiatrists deem important.
    d. only shows cause and effect, not relationships between variables.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 9
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 6% C: 91% D: 3% rpb = .27
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

42. Correlational studies are used for all of the following reasons except to
    a. examine relationships between variables.
    b. test predictions and evaluate theories.
    c. manipulate one variable and observes the effect on another variable.
    d. suggest new hypotheses about why people act as they do.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 11
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

43. A psychologist is looking for a link between aggressive behavior and television violence. She measures the frequency of fighting and television-viewing habits of many twelve-year-old children. The psychologist concludes that children who watch more violent programming also get into fights more often. This is an example of
    a. a case study.
    b. a survey.
    c. correlational research.
    d. experimental research.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 11
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

44. Randy, a community psychologist, is working with a community AIDS organization on a project to help reduce HIV transmission. He decides to gather as much information from as many people as possible about their sexual behavior patterns. Which of the following research methods would be the best choice for him to use?
    a. Naturalistic observation
    b. Case study
    c. Survey
    d. Experiment
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 10
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 1% B: 3% C: 96% D: 0% rpb = .22
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

45. Professor Beamish administers a survey to better understand stealing behaviors that occur in the workplace. Even though employees responded anonymously, they still may not respond truthfully. According to the textbook, this occurs because some people
    a. believe the researcher may be tricking them.
    b. do not like to admit embarrassing things about themselves.
    c. realize they are part of a control group.
    d. have not been randomly assigned.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 10
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

46. Harvard Business School is famous for teaching MBA students about business by using the case study method. If a Harvard MBA tried to apply knowledge from a case study to a new situation, the MBA should keep in mind that case studies may not be
    a. representative.
    b. unique.
    c. detailed.
    d. specific.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 9
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

47. A researcher was interested in determining whether test performance of students could be improved by providing them with individual tutoring. The researcher randomly divided fifty first-year college students into two groups. In Group A the instructor lectured to them for three hours per week. Group B received an equal amount of lecturing, but their instructor also met with each student for thirty minutes every week. Each group took the same final exam. The test performance of students in Group B was about the same as that of students in Group A. This study is an example of a(n)
    a. correlational study.
    b. case study.
    c. experiment.
    d. survey.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 12
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 23% B: 4% C: 73% D: 0% rpb = .2
    KEY: Comprehension

MSC: TYPE: C/A

48. A psychologist interested in determining the effects of a new diet regimen on the stress tolerance level of severely intellectually impaired patients would most likely choose which research method?
    a. Naturalistic observation method
    b. Telephone survey method
    c. Case study method
    d. Controlled experiment method
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 12
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 17% B: 0% C: 21% D: 62% rpb = .21
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

49. Giorgi wants to manipulate certain aspects of his study to understand the effect of those changes. Such manipulation is a foundational part of
    a. naturalistic observation.
    b. surveys.
    c. case studies.
    d. experiments.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 12
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

50. Dr. V wanted to test her hypothesis that sugar improves memory, so she gave one group of participants candy sweetened with sugar and another group candy sweetened with NutraSweet. Then she compared the performance of the two groups on a test of recognition memory. Dr. V's research method is
    a. dependent.
    b. experimental.
    c. descriptive.
    d. naturalistic.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 12
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

51. Dr. Kermit is interested in studying whether the readers on Reading Rainbow cause higher student reading scores than the readers on Avocado Alley. To answer his question, Dr. Kermit should use which research method?
    a. Naturalistic observation
    b. Case study
    c. Survey
    d. Experiment
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 12
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 6% B: 30% C: 21% D: 43% rpb = .49
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

52. Researchers who want to find the best explanation of a phenomenon when they have several rival hypotheses should
    a. describe the correlation among the variables involved.
    b. conduct controlled research using experimental methods.
    c. conduct research in the real world instead of in a laboratory.
    d. continue observing the phenomenon of interest until the best explanation becomes clear.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 12
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 15% B: 65% C: 4% D: 15% rpb = .42
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: F

53. An experimenter who conducts a study under highly controlled conditions often reduces the
    a. scientific value of the results.
    b. extent to which conclusions drawn from the results can be applied to populations or situations outside of the experimental conditions.
    c. likelihood that the research hypothesis will be confirmed by the results.
    d. strength of the relationship between the independent and dependent variables.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 12
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 2% B: 91% C: 2% D: 5% rpb = .30
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: F

54. P.W. Herman wanted to know whether consumption of alcoholic beverages affected peoples' bicycling abilities. He suggested the alcohol itself didn't have any negative effects, but people who drank alcohol expected to have their riding abilities impaired so they "acted drunk." To control for the participants' expectations, P.W. gave half of his sample vodka and the other half of his sample vodka-flavored water. P.W. used the _____ research method, and the vodka-flavored water was a _____.
    a. naturalistic observation; confounding variable
    b. survey; confounding variable
    c. experimental; placebo
    d. experimental; treatment variable
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 12, 16
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 1% B: 0% C: 93% D: 6% rpb = .24
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

55. Dr. Adcock is a community psychologist studying whether a special program instituted for an at-risk group of junior high school students decreases behavior problems. At-risk students are randomly assigned to either Group A, the special program, or Group B, a study hall meeting at the same time. In this experiment, Group A is the _____ while Group B is the _____.
    a. independent variable; dependent variable
    b. experimental group; control group
    c. control group; experimental group
    d. dependent variable; independent variable
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 3% B: 92% C: 3% D: 3% rpb = .35
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

56. Franz is conducting an experiment to study the effects of wearing heavy clothing on weight-lifting performance. He gives Group A heavy sweatshirts and lets Group B wear whatever they wish. He measures the amount of weight they can lift after the workout. Group B is the _____ group.
    a. experimental
    b. control
    c. dependent
    d. independent
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 9% B: 83% C: 3% D: 5% rpb = .28
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

57. An experimenter wants to determine if taking a specific amount of the drug Prozac relieves depression. Which of the following will be most in need of an operational definition in this study?
    a. The dependent variable
    b. The independent variable
    c. The inferential statistic
    d. An experimental confound
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 51% B: 31% C: 10% D: 7% rpb = .29
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

58. Quisley's hypothesis is that listening to classical music improves intellectual performance. He randomly divided a mathematics class into two rooms. In room A, music by Mozart played softly in the background during a lecture. In room B, the students listened to a lecture without background music. The independent variable is
    a. whether music played during a lecture.
    b. mathematical performance.
    c. the level of mathematics taught.
    d. present only in the control group.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 73% B: 13% C: 7% D: 7% rpb = .21
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

59. To investigate the effects of exercise on mathematical problem-solving ability, a researcher assigned participants to one of two groups. One group cycled on an exercise bike for one hour, and the other group performed no exercises. Afterward, both groups did a set of math problems and their performances were compared. In this experiment, the group that did not exercise is the
    a. control group.
    b. dependent variable.
    c. independent variable.
    d. intervening group.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 85% B: 10% C: 4% D: 0% rpb = .33
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

60. Jon believes that exercise is a cause of higher levels of life satisfaction. If Jon plans to study this hypothesis experimentally, his independent variable would be the
    a. amount of exercise his participants receive.
    b. level of life satisfaction before the exercise.
    c. level of life satisfaction after the exercise.
    d. physical health of his participants.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 79% B: 11% C: 6% D: 4% rpb = .33
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

61. Dr. Noyd conducted an experiment to determine whether talking to a psychiatrist made depressed people less depressed. He randomly divided participants who scored highly on a depressive inventory into two groups. Group A talked over their problems with a psychiatrist while Group B did nothing. He found that Group A showed significantly more improvement in their depression than did Group B. In Dr. Noyd's experiment, the experimental group refers to
    a. the differences observed whether or not therapy was received.
    b. the people who talked over their problems.
    c. the scores on the depressive inventory.
    d. the random assignment.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 79% B: 11% C: 6% D: 4% rpb = .33
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

62. James read a magazine ad about a drug that doctors say may help college students perform better on multiple-choice type tests. Being the inquisitive person that he is, James decided to do an experiment to see if the magazine's claims were true. He administered the drug to one of his classes, and gave the other class a placebo. James then tested the students in both groups on material they had recently discussed in class. In this example, what is the experimental group?
    a. The students who received the drug
    b. The students who received the placebo
    c. Test performance
    d. The age of the students
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 12% B: 79% C: 8% D: 1% rpb = .37
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

63. Dr. Jones is studying the effects of fatigue on aggression. He hypothesizes that the more fatigue a person is experiencing, the more aggressively the person will behave. Dr. Jones's control group should be composed of _____ participants.
    a. nonfatigued
    b. fatigued
    c. aggressive
    d. nonaggressive
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

64. Sima believes that wearing black clothing causes people to behave more aggressively. In her experiment, she randomly assigns people into two groups. In Group A, participants are given black shirts to wear, while participants in Group B are given white shirts to wear. Each participant is then asked to play a violent video game for fifteen minutes and his or her score is computed. In this experiment, each participant's video game score is the _____ variable.
    a. dependent
    b. random
    c. independent
    d. confounding
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 88% B: 2% C: 6% D: 4% rpb = .27
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

65. Dr. Kurtz believes that students who use calculators learn the basics of math better. He designs an experiment in which Group A is taught a math concept and allowed to use calculators. Group B is taught the same math concept but is not allowed to use calculators. Then he gives both groups a standardized math test to assess their knowledge of the concept and compares their scores. In Dr. Kurtz's experiment, the standardized math test score is the
    a. dependent variable.
    b. independent variable.
    c. confound.
    d. placebo.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 81% B: 9% C: 7% D: 2% rpb = .33
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

66. A researcher had one group of children go trick-or-treating wearing masks and a second group of children go trick-or-treating without masks. The researcher found that the children who wore masks took more candy than the children who were not wearing masks. What was the control group in this study?
    a. The group who wore masks
    b. The group who did not wear masks
    c. Trick-or-treating
    d. The amount of candy taken
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 14% B: 78% C: 5% D: 2% rpb = .32
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

67. Dr. Kilgore is studying the effects of Prozac on depression. Dr. Kilgore ran a double-blind study on a group of sixty college students. Thirty students received Prozac and thirty students received a placebo. At the beginning and end of the study, Dr. Kilgore administered the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) to determine the efficacy of the drugs. In this experiment, the group that received Prozac is considered the _____ group.
    a. independent
    b. dependent
    c. experimental
    d. control
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 8% B: 7% C: 83% D: 2% rpb = .34
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

68. Zack believes that drinking milk improves memory. He conducts an experiment in which he randomly chooses a group of participants and randomly divides them into two groups. Group A drinks milk before trying to remember a list of nonsense syllables. Group B drinks nothing before trying to remember a list of nonsense syllables. The experimental group in this experiment is
    a. the number of nonsense syllables remembered.
    b. Group A.
    c. the level of thirst before drinking the milk.
    d. Group B.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 13
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 71% B: 0% C: 1% D: 28% rpb = .31
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

69. Dr. Jiminez investigated the influence of snacking on the onset of sleep in preschool children. One group of preschoolers ate a candy bar prior to bedtime, and the other group ate nothing. Time until the onset of sleep was recorded for each child. In this experiment, eating or not eating the snack is the _____ variable, and the time until the onset of sleep is the _____ variable.
    a. independent; dependent
    b. dependent; independent
    c. experimental; control
    d. control; experimental
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 87% B: 8% C: 2% D: 4% rpb = .32
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

70. Dr. Hodo is conducting a study in which he is examining the effect of two types of therapy on depression in college students. Type of therapy is the _____ variable.
    a. independent
    b. control
    c. dependent
    d. confounding
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 72% B: 6% C: 19% D: 2% rpb = .42
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

71. Tai is interested in how alcohol consumption affects driving ability. He gives college students two, four, or six beers and then measures how many obstacles the students "hit" when they are in a driving simulator. The dependent variable is
    a. alcohol consumption.
    b. driving ability.
    c. the number of drinks.
    d. the number of obstacles hit.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 3% B: 20% C: 10% D: 67% rpb = .27
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

72. Dr. Fontenot is studying the effects of fatigue on aggression. He hypothesizes that the more fatigue a person is experiencing, the more aggressively the person will behave. The level of aggression in Dr. Fontenot's study is the _____ variable.
    a. independent
    b. dependent
    c. confounding
    d. intervening
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 15% B: 81% C: 3% D: 1% rpb = .48
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

73. Malcolm administers a survey of people's attitudes about the relationship between exercise and stress level. What is the independent variable?
    a. Exercise level
    b. Stress level
    c. Survey
    d. None of the above
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 44% B: 6% C: 3% D: 47% rpb = .17
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

74. A researcher shows a violent film to one group of participants and a nonviolent film to another before giving both groups a test measuring aggressiveness. Which of the following statements is true?
    a. The participants shown the violent film are the control group.
    b. The type of film shown is the independent variable.
    c. The nonviolent film is likely to produce a placebo effect.
    d. The violent film is a confound.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 12% B: 77% C: 0% D: 12% rpb = .60
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

75. Derrill is worried that variables such as age, gender, personality characteristics, and education level might confound the results of his experiment, which is designed to test the effects of mood on reaction time. Derrill should use _____ assignment to experimental groups to distribute the impact of these _____ variables.
    a. random; representative
    b. representative; random
    c. representative; representative
    d. random; random
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 15
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 29% B: 19% C: 14% D: 38% rpb = .31
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

76. To avoid bias and confounds in a controlled experiment, participants should be assigned to either the experimental or control group
    a. on the basis of careful thought.
    b. randomly.
    c. on the basis of individual tests.
    d. according to age variables.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 15
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 2% B: 96% C: 1% D: 1% rpb = .24
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

77. In Dr. Turgrove's experiment, he includes a control group that receives a placebo. This type of research design is meant to control which confound?
    a. Participants' expectations
    b. Experimenter bias
    c. Sampling bias
    d. Independent variable
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 16
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 92% B: 3 % C: 3% D: 3% rpb = .15
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

78. A participant in an experiment is told that a particular pill should improve her performance on a cognitive task. The participant is then given the pill, and she performs better than usual on the task. In actuality, the pill did not contain any ingredients that would affect her performance on the task. The participant's improved performance was most likely due to
    a. the double-blind design.
    b. random variables.
    c. the placebo effect.
    d. confirmation bias.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 16
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

79. A(n) _____ variable can be any factor, other than the variable being manipulated by the experimenter, in the experimental situation that might affect the dependent variable.
    a. interval
    b. correlational
    c. independent
    d. random
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 1% B: 6% C: 22% D: 71% rpb = .48
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

80. Brielle is studying the effect that alcohol consumption has on test-taking ability. In her study, a participant's alcohol tolerance would be
    a. the independent variable.
    b. the dependent variable.
    c. a confound.
    d. the experimental group.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 14% B: 14% C: 72% D: 0% rpb = .36
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

81. A professor wanted to examine the effects of diet on learning. He put some laboratory rats on a starvation diet (Group A) but eliminated only desserts from the diet of a second group (Group B). During the experiment, the professor discovered that he needed more Group B rats, so he caught some in a local alley. The results of the experiment showed that Group B rats were faster at learning a maze, so the professor concluded that diet is related to learning speed. Which of the following statements is the most accurate?
    a. The professor's conclusion is correct.
    b. The professor's conclusion is incorrect because the rats in Group A were on a different diet than the rats in Group B.
    c. The professor's conclusion is incorrect because the type of rat was a confound.
    d. None of the above
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 3% B: 5% C: 78% D: 14% rpb = .22
    KEY: Analysis
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

82. In an experiment to study the effects of marijuana usage on memory, previous experiences with drug usage is
    a. experimenter bias.
    b. the independent variable.
    c. the dependent variable.
    d. a confound.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 8% B: 13% C: 6% D: 73% rpb = .36
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

83. Dr. Denton designed an experiment to test the hypothesis that children who are taught alternative ways of responding to failure will show increased persistence in problem solving. Dr. Denton assigned half of a random sample of third-graders to a tutor who emphasized learning from mistakes and increasing knowledge rather than improving grades. The other half of the sample received tutoring without the emphasis on "learning goals." After two months of tutoring, both groups were given a test of persistence. A possible random variable in this experiment is the
    a. amount of time before the persistence test.
    b. persistence test score.
    c. level of intelligence of the children.
    d. None of the above
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 4% B: 0% C: 85% D: 11% rpb = .24
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

84. Dr. Dalbey is studying the effects of fatigue on aggression. He hypothesizes that the more fatigue a person is experiencing, the more aggressively the person will behave. Unbeknownst to Dr. Dalbey, the participants' level of hunger also had an impact on their aggression. Hunger could thus be a(n) _____ variable.
    a. independent
    b. dependent
    c. confounding
    d. intervening
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 3% B: 2% C: 87% D: 8% rpb = .30
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

85. To minimize the impact of random variables on an experiment's results, researchers commonly use
    a. a double-blind experiment.
    b. random assignment.
    c. a placebo.
    d. a control group.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 15
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 21% B: 49% C: 3% D: 27% rpb = .38
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F
    NOT: www

86. Dr. Ayala conducts an experiment where she gives half her participants a yellow pill containing a drug that keeps them awake during psychology lectures. She gives the other half of her participants an identical-looking yellow pill that does not contain the drug. This experimental design controls for
    a. experimenter bias.
    b. random variables.
    c. a placebo effect.
    d. confirmation bias.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 16
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 18% B: 11% C: 47% D: 23% rpb = .15
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

87. In research, uncontrollable factors such as the temperature of the room, the mood of the participants, and chance effects are considered _____ variables.
    a. independent
    b. random
    c. dependent
    d. control
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 14
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

88. Dr. Bishop is studying the effects of a drug on memory. Half of his participants will receive the drug, while the other half will receive a placebo. The pills the two groups of participants will take look exactly the same. Dr. Bishop hopes that the use of a placebo will
    a. allow him to have control over the dependent variables.
    b. show if memory improvement is based on participant expectations.
    c. create a double-blind design for his research.
    d. eliminate the chance of random variables confounding his experiment.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 16
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 2% B: 97% C: 0% D: 1% rpb = .24
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

89. Which of the following is the most effective way to eliminate experimenter bias?
    a. Use placebos.
    b. Hire ethical research assistants.
    c. Use random variables.
    d. Use a double-blind design.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 17
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 5% C: 5% D: 90% rpb = .36
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F
    NOT: www

90. Laura conducted a study to determine whether her new "puppet" therapy works better than the traditional "talking" therapy. After randomly assigning her own patients to either the "puppet" or "talking" group, Laura herself administered the therapy. This study is most obviously flawed due to
    a. random variables.
    b. experimenter bias.
    c. the placebo effect.
    d. participant expectations.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 17
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 4% B: 92% C: 2% D: 3% rpb = .27
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

91. In an experiment, Dr. Fatka watches forty participants play basketball and gives each participant a rating from 1 to 10 to assess the participant's basketball ability. Dr. Fatka randomly divides the forty participants into two groups and personally teaches one group how to play basketball and the other group how to play football. Finally, Dr. Fatka watches all forty participants play basketball again and gives each participant a new rating. After looking at the data, Dr. Fatka concludes that teaching basketball was more effective than teaching football in raising the basketball ratings. This experiment is flawed because of
    a. experimenter bias.
    b. random sampling.
    c. double-blind design.
    d. correlations.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 17
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 80% B: 6% C: 6% D: 9% rpb = .27
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

92. One way to prevent experimenter bias is to be sure that the experimenter and the participants know nothing of who is receiving the experimental treatment and who is not. This is known as
    a. experimenter design.
    b. the placebo effect.
    c. a random assignment of variables.
    d. a double-blind design.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 17
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 2% C: 4% D: 94% rpb = .29
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

93. The school psychologist at Happy Elementary School conducted a study where the students of one fourth-grade class were given five recesses during the day while students in the other class were allowed the standard two recesses. The psychologist explained to the teachers that more breaks should lead to better behavior in the classrooms and then had the teachers observe the children's progress. In this experiment, there is the risk of
    a. random sampling.
    b. experimenter bias.
    c. participant bias.
    d. the placebo effect.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 17
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 5% B: 79% C: 11% D: 5% rpb = .25
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

94. Dr. Gillis has decided to use _____ in his research to guard against both experimenter bias and participant expectations.
    a. confounds
    b. random selection
    c. the placebo effect
    d. the double-blind design
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 17
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: F

95. If you were interested in determining the effectiveness of a new medication in treating depression, it would be most important that you use
    a. naturalistic observational methods.
    b. correlational research.
    c. a double-blind design.
    d. a stratified sample.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 17
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 11% B: 21% C: 63% D: 5% rpb = .29
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: F

96. Dr. Abdul wants his research findings to be representative of the students at State U. He makes sure that every student has an equal chance of being a participant, thereby ensuring that he has done _____ sampling.
    a. biased
    b. operational
    c. random
    d. representative
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

97. While conducting an experiment on alcohol tolerance, Dr. Guff solicits his participants at the door to Skam's (a local drinking and social establishment). When he publishes his findings (that people are extremely tolerant to the effects of alcohol), Dr. Guff's research is criticized because
    a. there are too many dependent variables.
    b. he used a double-blind design.
    c. the sample is biased.
    d. he used a double-blind design and the samples are biased.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 15% B: 1% C: 71% D: 13% rpb = .35
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

98. Marney is studying the relationship between the rate of teen pregnancies in U.S. high school students and the availability of contraceptives. She selects a sample composed of teens from a local high school. Marney's sample may not be generalizable because it is not
    a. double-blind.
    b. biased.
    c. representative.
    d. dependent.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 8% B: 58% C: 32% D: 3% rpb = .20
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

99. Which of the following methods would result in having a truly random sample of the population of the United States?
    a. Randomly select names from every phone book published in the United States.
    b. Advertise in every newspaper in the country that you will pay $10/hour to anyone willing to be in a research project.
    c. Get names from the Internal Revenue Service of every person who filed income tax returns last year and select names so that every income level is proportionately represented.
    d. None of the above
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 18% B: 3% C: 3% D: 76% rpb = .31
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

100. When each member of a population has an equal chance of being chosen for a study, the individuals selected constitute a(n) _____ sample.
    a. random
    b. stratified
    c. independent
    d. significant
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 98% B: 1% C: 0% D: 1% rpb = .20
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

101. A researcher at the university has students in the introductory psychology participant pool fill out a survey about life satisfaction. This use of the introductory psychology participant pool represents _____ sampling of the human population.
    a. random
    b. biased
    c. representative
    d. placebo
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

102. Suzie is a graduate student who is conducting research on the topic of relative happiness. Suzie also teaches an introductory psychology course. Because her students are readily available, she uses them as participants in her research. This is an example of
    a. dependent error.
    b. a double-blind design.
    c. randomizing.
    d. a convenience sample.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

103. Natalie wants to study student sleeping patterns on her campus. She has permission to obtain the e-mail address of every student on campus. Natalie randomly selects half of them and sends them an e-mail survey form. However, she receives a reply from only 23 percent of her sample. Natalie's research will most likely be inaccurate due to
    a. experimenter bias.
    b. biased sampling.
    c. nonresponse error.
    d. a placebo effect.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

104. Kumar wants to do research using a survey about attitudes toward smoking. Kumar wants his sampling of respondents to be as representative as possible of the adult Ohio population. Kumar should
    a. randomly pick names from the latest Ohio census.
    b. take every thousandth name from phone books all over the state.
    c. survey all passersby in downtown areas of communities all over the state.
    d. put ads on TV stations around the state asking for volunteers.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 18
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 75% B: 17% C: 5% D: 3% rpb = .20
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

105. Kami started reading books to his child before she was born. Now she is two, and he has begun spending a little time each day on educational games, hoping that he can increase her intelligence. What viewpoint must Kami have about the most important determinants of mental development?
    a. Maturational
    b. Nature
    c. Nurture
    d. Freudian
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 19
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 75% B: 17% C: 5% D: 3% rpb = .20
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

106. Some people believe that a person is born either smart or dumb and education does little to affect intelligence. This is an example of the _____ argument.
    a. psychodynamic
    b. nature
    c. nurture
    d. humanistic
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 19
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 8% B: 79% C: 5% D: 8% rpb = .29
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A
    NOT: www

107. Steve is pushing Little Larry around on the fifth-grade playground when Larry says, "Your parents raised you to be a rude brat." Steve replies, "Shut up, wimp. It's survival of the fittest on this playground, and I was born to rule." Steve and Larry are engaging in a debate over
    a. nature and nurture.
    b. authoritarian and authoritative parenting styles.
    c. stage and continual processes in development.
    d. assimilation and accommodation.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 19
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 75% B: 22% C: 0% D: 2% rpb = .33
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

108. Dr. Narayan is interested in how much of personality is inherited, so she tests whether the personalities of siblings are more similar to each other than they are to distant cousins. This research would best be described as
    a. behavioral genetics.
    b. twin analysis.
    c. genetic engineering.
    d. psychoanalytic.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 19
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    Test Item Analysis: A: 92% B: 3% C: 0% D: .5% rpb = .47
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

109. One of the most important conclusions to be drawn with regard to the relative roles of heredity and environment is that
    a. they are too closely entwined to be separated.
    b. heredity is generally the more important factor.
    c. the environment is generally the more important factor.
    d. both are always equally important.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 19
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

110. Veronica is preparing a lecture for class tomorrow on the topic of behavioral genetics. The content of her lecture will be about
    a. the biology of inheritance.
    b. the evolutionary approach to human development.
    c. the study of how genes affect behavior.
    d. neuropsychology.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 19
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

111. Melanie has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder. If the disorder is genetic, who is at the greatest risk of developing the disorder?
    a. Melody, her identical twin
    b. Marty, her older brother
    c. Marvin, her father
    d. Marissa, her mother
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 20
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

112. Dr. Essen wants to conduct a study on eating habits. He suspects that there are both environmental and genetic influences that affect a person's eating behavior. To study this behavioral genetics topic, Dr. Essen will likely conduct a _____ study.
    a. marriage
    b. double-blind
    c. family
    d. randomizing
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 20
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

113. Dr. Harshaw is planning to research the relationship between behavioral genetics and the effect of impulsivity on consumer behavior. To complete his research, Dr. Harshaw would likely conduct a
    a. representative sampling.
    b. twin study.
    c. random variable study.
    d. personality test.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 20
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

114. If Dr. Tarantino wants to know the degree to which heredity and environment affect differences among individuals, he would likely consider any of the following research approaches except for a(n) _____ study.
    a. gender
    b. adoption
    c. family
    d. twin
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 20
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

115. A researcher wants to know if intelligence is based more prominently on factors of family environment or on heredity. Her research focuses on identical twins who are raised together in the same home and those who were separated at birth and raised in different homes by different parents. According to the textbook, this researcher is conducting a(n) _____ study.
    a. sibling
    b. adoption
    c. twin
    d. family
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 20
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

116. Dr. Ayhee's research is focused on exploring how environmental effects, such as stress and disease, can alter the functions of genes in the human body, even though the DNA itself remains unchanged. This field of study is known as
    a. forensic psychology.
    b. epigenetics.
    c. inferential studies.
    d. environmental psychology.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 20
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

117. Dr. Zoe began working for a research foundation that focuses on the study of epigenetics. Dr. Zoe's work will most likely focus on
    a. the environmental triggers that can change the sequence of chemicals in the DNA.
    b. how twin, adoption, and family studies reveal the relative influence of heredity on development.
    c. identifying experimental confounds that confuse behavioral genetics research.
    d. diseases and stress factors that can alter the function of genes.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 20
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Research Methods in Psychology
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

118. For his sociology research paper, Sawyer would like to report descriptive statistics from his survey findings. In other words, the statistics Sawyer plans to report will
    a. describe a data set numerically.
    b. be statistically significant.
    c. allow him to make inferences about a data set.
    d. reveal a cause-effect relationship.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

119. During a thesis meeting, Dr. Voldemort suggests that Anwen consider using inferential statistics in her upcoming research project. After the meeting, Anwen meets her friend Jack and confesses she doesn't know what Dr. Voldemort was talking about. Jack explains that inferential statistics
    a. are measures of central tendency and variability.
    b. are mathematical procedures used to draw conclusions from data.
    c. usually involve correlation coefficients.
    d. cannot be statistically significant by definition.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 24
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

120. You have been asked to determine several statistics from a data set of survey questions regarding students' perceptions of campus safety. Which of the following are not considered a descriptive statistic?
    a. Measures of central tendency
    b. Range
    c. Correlation
    d. Tests of statistical significance
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 24
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

121. A researcher wants to know what conclusions she can reasonably draw from the data that she collected in her experiment. The researcher should use _____ statistics to understand what her data mean.
    a. inferential
    b. quantitative
    c. variable
    d. descriptive
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 24
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

122. Consuela collected the following quiz scores from her class: 20, 19, 17, 17, 16, 15, 15, 15, 12, 12. Which of the following is the median score?
    a. 17
    b. 14.5
    c. 15.5
    d. 16
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

123. Andrea's score on the first quiz was identical to the mode. If the class scores were 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 10, then Andrea's score was
    a. 4.
    b. 7.
    c. 8.
    d. 10.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

124. Which of the following is an accurate description of both the mean and the mode?
    a. The mean represents only a small segment of the data, while the mode reflects all the data.
    b. The mean is reflective of all the data, while the mode represents only a small segment.
    c. Both are reflective of all the data, but the mean is used more often.
    d. The mode is reflective of the extremes of the data, while the mean represents the average.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: F

125. Lisette's students received the following scores on their last quiz: 6, 8, 8, 8, 10. From these data, we can conclude that the
    a. mean, median, and mode are the same.
    b. median would be a better indicator of "average" than the mean.
    c. standard deviation is equivalent to the range.
    d. mean, median, and mode are the same, and median would be a better indicator of "average" than the mean.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 81% B: 3% C: 2% D: 14% rpb = .12
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

126. When Zelma finished grading the tests, she noticed that the mode for the class was 82. Which of the following should she tell her students?
    a. "The class average for the test was 82."
    b. "Half of you scored better than 82 and half of you scored lower than 82."
    c. "There were more 82s earned on this test than any other score."
    d. "The difference between the highest score earned and the lowest is 82."
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

127. Jubina runs an experiment and obtains the following seven scores: 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15, 239. She decides to use the measure of central tendency that is the least sensitive to extreme scores. Therefore, she chooses the _____, which in this case has the value of _____.
    a. mean; 40
    b. median; 7
    c. standard deviation; 7
    d. mode; 7
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 10% B: 76% C: 7% D: 7% rpb = .24
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

128. A measure of central tendency
    a. describes the variability of a set of data.
    b. reveals the typical score in a set of data.
    c. conclusively compares means of a set of data.
    d. describes relations between sets of data.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

129. The statistic that is most sensitive to an extreme score in a set of data is the
    a. mean.
    b. mode.
    c. median.
    d. correlation coefficient.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 76% B: 5% C: 11% D: 9%rpb = .35
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

130. In the data set 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, the number 5 is most correctly described as the
    a. mean.
    b. mode.
    c. median.
    d. mean and median.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

131. When Harry met Sally, they had a debate about whether men and women can be friends. Harry decided to ask random people, "On a scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (definitely), how strongly do you believe that men and women can be friends?" Their responses were as follows: 1, 1, 1, 1, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10. Which measure of central tendency should Harry use if he wants to convince Sally that most people do not believe that men and women can be friends?
    a. Mode
    b. Mean
    c. Median
    d. Range
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 21
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 89% B: 4 % C: 6% D: 0% rpb = .26
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

132. Consider these two sets of numbers:
    Set A: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
    Set B: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
    These sets of numbers have the same _____ but different _____.
    a. mean; modes
    b. standard deviation; ranges
    c. range; means
    d. mode; standard deviations
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 21, 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 41% C: 57% D: 2% rpb = .20
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

133. The football team's punter wants to determine how consistent his kicking distances were last season. Which of the following will give him the most information?
    a. Mean
    b. Median
    c. Mode
    d. Standard deviation
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 15% B: 3% C: 21% D: 61% rpb = .33
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

134. Researchers could look at the range of data to determine the
    a. relationship between two variables.
    b. difference between the high and low score in a set.
    c. measure of average differences between scores.
    d. most frequently occurring score in a set.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

135. Conrad is interested in understanding the variability of scores in his study of reading speed. He should look at the _____ of his participants' scores.
    a. correlation
    b. mean
    c. standard deviation
    d. p-value
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

136. The standard deviation
    a. is computed from the range of the data divided by the number of observations.
    b. will tell you how the scores are scattered around the median value.
    c. is computed from the average distance between each score and the mean of the data set.
    d. is not a measure of variability.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 5% B: 28% C: 65% D: 2% rpb = .28
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

137. Randomly sampled sets of _____ IQ scores are likely to have the highest standard deviation.
    a. psychologists'
    b. psychology students'
    c. college students'
    d. taxpayers'
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 3% B: 1% C: 10% D: 86% rpb = .37
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

138. Wilson consistently gets the same score in bowling, while House's score is unpredictable from game to game. Wilson's scores have a lower _____ than House's scores.
    a. median
    b. correlation
    c. standard deviation
    d. mean
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

139. M. Night Shyamalan is searching for a leading man for his next movie. He wants to cast an actor who has a stable record of box office success. According to the standard deviation of the box office sales of movies starring the four actors given below, which actor should Shyamalan cast?
    a. Denzel Washington (SD = 5.25)
    b. George Clooney (SD = 8.14)
    c. Matt Damon (SD = 6.03)
    d. Tom Hanks (SD = 4.78)
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 22
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 1% B: 5 % C: 0% D: 93% rpb = .20
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

140. As you go south from Maine to Florida, your latitude decreases, but the average daily temperature goes up. This illustrates a
    a. positive correlation.
    b. negative correlation.
    c. small standard deviation.
    d. large standard deviation.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 6% B: 89% C: 2% D: 3% rpb = .35
    KEY: Comprehension
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

141. As you take money out of your checking account, the balance in your checking account decreases. The more money you withdraw, the lower your balance. The correlation between amount of money withdrawn and your balance is
a. +1.0.
b. –1.0.
c. 0.0.
d. –0.50.
ANS: B
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
KEY: Application
MSC: TYPE: C/A

142. Upon collecting a vast amount of data to determine whether there is a correlational relationship between smoking and lung cancer, you calculate the correlation coefficient. Which number would be the best value if you wanted to see that the more you smoke, the more likely you are to get lung cancer?
a. –0.50
b. –0.90
c. +0.85
d. +1.23
ANS: C
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
KEY: Application
MSC: TYPE: C/A

143. Paul is asked to find the correlation coefficient representing the highest degree of association between two variables. Which should he choose?
a. +0.70
b. –0.20
c. +1.35
d. –0.75
ANS: D
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
Test Item Analysis: A: 16% B: 6% C: 7% D: 71% rpb = .25
KEY: Application
MSC: TYPE: C/A

144. Which correlation coefficient indicates the greatest strength in the relationship?
a. +0.63
b. +2.00
c. –3.05
d. –0.80
ANS: D
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
Test Item Analysis: A: 16% B: 14% C: 14% D: 56% rpb = .42
KEY: Comprehension
MSC: TYPE: F

145. As the number of hours a student studies for an exam increases, the likelihood of his doing poorly on the exam decreases. Therefore, how many hours students study for an exam _____ the likelihood of their doing poorly on the exam.
a. is uncorrelated with
b. increases
c. is negatively correlated with
d. is positively correlated with
ANS: C
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
Test Item Analysis: A: 0% B: 0% C: 83% D: 17% rpb = .27
KEY: Comprehension
MSC: TYPE: C/A

146. Kurt hypothesizes that the more jokes he tells during his lecture, the fewer people will be sleeping in class. For several days, he keeps track of the number of jokes he tells and the number of people sleeping during his lecture. If Kurt's hypothesis is correct, which of the following correlation coefficients describes the relationship between the number of jokes he tells and the number of people sleeping in class?
a. r = +4.0
b. r = –0.7
c. r = +0.5
d. r = –3.0
ANS: B
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
Test Item Analysis: A: 7% B: 61% C: 24% D: 8% rpb = .34
KEY: Application
MSC: TYPE: C/A

147. Gwen noticed that as the number of her sorority sisters using e-mail went up, the fewer long distance phone calls were made. Which correlation coefficient represents what Gwen observed?
a. r = +0.75
b. r = +5.6
c. r = –0.65
d. r = –7.4
ANS: C
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
Test Item Analysis: A: 12% B: 2% C: 81% D: 5% rpb = .30
KEY: Application
MSC: TYPE: C/A

148. Jerome is studying the relationship between time spent together and his wife's marital satisfaction. He finds a correlation of –0.86. This means that spending time together _____ marital satisfaction.
a. causes lower
b. causes higher
c. is associated with lower
d. is associated with higher
ANS: C
OBJ: 23
REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
Test Item Analysis: A: 8% B: 3% C: 79% D: 11% rpb = .33
KEY: Application
MSC: TYPE: C/A

149. Several studies have shown that schizophrenia is negatively correlated with a person's income. Which of the following statements can we not conclude from these results?
    a. Schizophrenia causes a person to lose or quit a job and thus results in a reduction of income.
    b. Low income may make certain people more susceptible to developing schizophrenia because they cannot afford proper medical treatment.
    c. Another variable that was not examined may be confounding the results by influencing both variables.
    d. Further studies need to be done to determine the direction of the relationship between the two.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 48% B: 25% C: 11% D: 16% rpb = .27
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

150. Mario tested the relationship between violence and population density. He found a correlation coefficient of –0.75. What can you conclude?
    a. Population density and violence are not related.
    b. A higher population density causes more violence.
    c. A higher population density is associated with more violence.
    d. A higher population density is associated with less violence.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 8% B: 1% C: 25% D: 66% rpb = .36
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

151. Mike's research has shown a positive correlation between the number of books in families' homes and the grade-point averages of the children in those families. Mike's results indicate
    a. that the presence of many books in a home causes children to be more studious.
    b. nothing, because the study did not take library borrowing into account.
    c. parents who buy many books encourage their children to study.
    d. the children of families with a large number of books at home tend to do well in school.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 1%B: 4%C: 3%D: 91% rpb = .18
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

152. A researcher found a correlation of –0.70 between IQ and physical activity levels. The correct interpretation of this finding is that
    a. high-IQ people tend to exercise less than low-IQ people.
    b. high-IQ people tend to exercise more than low-IQ people.
    c. there is very little relationship between IQ and activity level.
    d. higher IQ causes somewhat lower activity levels.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 42% B: 5% C: 23% D: 30% rpb = .27
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

153. Biff has discovered a correlation of –0.83 between the amount of time his fraternity brothers spend working out in the gym and the number of dates they have during the semester. Based on this information, Biff should conclude that
    a. the more the men work out, the more dates they have.
    b. the more the men work out, the fewer dates they have.
    c. working out causes an increase in dates.
    d. working out causes a decrease in dates.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 13% B: 79 % C: 4% D: 5% rpb = .30
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

154. A researcher collects data on the amount of time children spend watching violent cartoons. He compares the behavior of a group of children who watch a lot of violent cartoons (Group 1) with a group of children who do not (Group 2). He finds that children in Group 1 are more aggressive on the playground than the children in Group 2. What can the researcher conclude?
    a. There is a relationship between watching violent cartoons and aggressive behavior.
    b. Watching violent cartoons causes aggressive behavior.
    c. Aggressive behavior leads children to watch violent cartoons because they are reinforcing.
    d. Parents who reward aggressive behavior also allow their children to watch violent cartoons.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

155. Recent research has found a correlation between a person's age and the number of vinyl records owned, with r = +0.71. What does this correlation mean?
    a. An older person is more likely to own a lot of records than a younger person.
    b. An older person is less likely to own a lot of records than a younger person.
    c. An older person and younger person have an equal chance of owning a lot of records.
    d. A person's age is not significantly related to the number of records owned.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

156. Dr. Guavita asked fifty smokers a series of questions about their childhoods and then collected blood samples from them. He found a high correlation between levels of the stress hormone cortisol and amount of reported childhood trauma. Dr. Guavita's research shows that childhood trauma
    a. causes high stress levels in adults.
    b. causes high cortisol levels in adults.
    c. may be related to stress levels in adults.
    d. is unrelated to stress levels in adults.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 23
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 18% B: 10% C: 72% D: 0% rpb = .26
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

157. What does it mean to say that the results of a study are not statistically significant? The results
    a. could reasonably be expected to have occurred by chance.
    b. are extremely unlikely to have occurred by chance.
    c. are not scientifically valuable.
    d. are extremely unlikely to have occurred by chance and are not scientifically valuable.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 24
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 77% B: 8% C: 8% D: 8% rpb = .26
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

158. Ellen wants to see if the level of lighting in a room will affect the performance of individuals on an IQ test. She lets one group in her study have very bright lights and a second group have more normal lighting. She finds that the individuals in the bright light group have better scores on the test than do the individuals in the normal light group. The difference between the two groups' scores is statistically significant, which means
    a. lighting definitely makes a difference.
    b. the difference between the groups is due to chance.
    c. lighting significantly affects performance.
    d. the difference between the groups is probably not due to chance.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 24
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    Test Item Analysis: A: 4% B: 7% C: 16% D: 73% rpb = .38
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

159. If you are reading about an experiment, what feature is necessary to give you confidence that there is a cause-effect relationship between the independent and dependent variables?
    a. Random assignment
    b. Case studies
    c. Random sampling
    d. Statistical significance
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 24
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

160. Brad’s thesis advisor often tells him that it’s important to strive for results that are statistically significant. To have results that are statistically significant means
    a. descriptive statistics were used.
    b. participants were randomized in his study.
    c. there was no random selection.
    d. there is a small chance that the results were caused by random variables.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 24
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Statistical Analysis of Research Results
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

161. A researcher might test the influence of environment on cognitive development by taking newborn children away from their parents and assigning half of them to a rich cognitive environment and half to a deprived cognitive environment. What is wrong with this experiment?
    a. There is nothing wrong with this experiment.
    b. There is no control group.
    c. The experimental method violates ethical standards.
    d. There is no way to control for the Hawthorne effect.
    ANS: C
    OBJ: 28
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Ethical Guidelines for Psychologists
    KEY: Analysis
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

162. An experimenter is studying the facial expression of the emotion terror. He plans to point a loaded gun at participants as they enter the room and photograph them at the same instant. Such an experiment would be ethically
    a. acceptable if the experimenter explained the experiment afterward.
    b. acceptable if the experimenter explained the experiment afterward and if the participants were paid.
    c. acceptable if the participants were paid.
    d. unacceptable because the risks and discomfort to the participants outweigh the potential benefits of the knowledge gained.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 28
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Ethical Guidelines for Psychologists
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

163. Participants may be exposed to risk or discomfort during research
    a. only when risk and discomfort are temporary.
    b. only when minimal risk and discomfort are outweighed by the benefit to the knowledge base and to human welfare.
    c. when nonhuman participants are used.
    d. when they are paid for their participation.
    ANS: B
    OBJ: 25
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Ethical Guidelines for Psychologists
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

164. A psychologist proposed an experiment in which he would tell participants that their performance on an intelligence test was extremely low (regardless of actual performance) and then measure their self-esteem. What might an Institutional Review Board ethics committee say about such a proposal?
    a. Deception is allowable only if it is revealed afterward and if the emotional distress that it causes is short-lived.
    b. Deception is allowable only if participants give informed consent prior to the experiment.
    c. Deception is never allowable.
    d. Deception such as this would cause emotional discomfort, so it should not be done.
    ANS: A
    OBJ: 26
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Ethical Guidelines for Psychologists
    KEY: Application
    MSC: TYPE: C/A

165. Animals in psychological research typically experience
    a. extreme pain.
    b. starvation.
    c. inhumane conditions.
    d. ethical treatment.
    ANS: D
    OBJ: 25
    REF: Chapter 2: Research in Psychology/Ethical Guidelines for Psychologists
    KEY: Knowledge
    MSC: TYPE: F

ESSAY

1. A friend of yours claims that psychology isn't a science. Explain why your friend is wrong by relating the scientific goals of psychological research to the research methods psychologists use.
    ANS:
    Psychology is a science in the sense that researchers in psychology strive to achieve four goals just like scientists in other fields, namely: (1) to describe phenomena, (2) to make predictions about phenomena, (3) to provide control over important variables associated with the phenomena, and thereby (4) to explain how and why the phenomena occur. To achieve these goals, psychologists, like scientists in other fields, employ a variety of research methods. To describe and predict aspects of the phenomena under investigation, psychologists employ (1) naturalistic observation, (2) case studies, and (3) surveys. To control and explain the phenomena, psychologists use (4) experiments, including quasi-experiments, to demonstrate cause-effect relationships among specific variables.
    Note: An acceptable answer may also include reference to the use of hypotheses, theories, operational definitions, and data, but should include the goals and methods identified above.

2. It has been said that laughter is the best medicine, but can research be done to substantiate or discredit this assertion? Imagine that you have been hired to find out if laughter is an effective treatment for the common cold. As you describe your experimental design, address the following questions: What are your independent and dependent variables? How will you operationally define your variables? Who will participate in your research, and how will you select them?
    ANS:
    In my research, laughter is the independent variable, and the dependent variable would be cold symptoms. The laughter would be operationally defined as auditory chuckles, and I would measure the duration of the chuckles as well as the frequency. Cold symptoms would be operationally defined as coughing and sneezing. I would measure the frequency of both. I would randomly select three doctors from the Midwest. During winter, I would randomly pick twenty-four patients from each doctor. A third would be assigned to the experimental group, a third to the placebo group, and a third to the control group. The experimental group would be shown humorous cartoons and sitcoms. The placebo group would be shown a film of two monkeys playing catch with a plastic carp. The control group would not be shown anything. The study would last two weeks, and participants would be monitored for the cold symptoms. If laughter were an effective medicine, we would expect to see a statistically significant decrease in the frequency of sneezing and coughing in the participants in the experimental group when compared to the participants in both the placebo and control groups.

3. Select a television or radio commercial that makes a claim (e.g., "Bluebird fabric softener makes your clothes feel softer"). Put that claim to the test by using the five-question process of critical thinking.
    ANS:
    What am I being asked to believe or accept?
    Bluebird fabric softener makes clothes feel softer.
    What evidence is available to support the assertion?
    Test results run by Bluebird. "Unsolicited claims" by users that Bluebird makes their clothing feel softer.
    Are there alternative ways of interpreting the evidence?
    Bluebird may be attempting to convince potential consumers that their product is superior. Bluebird may be looking to increase profits.
    What additional evidence would help evaluate the alternatives?
    Independent testing by unbiased researchers; comparisons of Bluebird to similar products.

What conclusions are most reasonable?
Commercials often make exaggerated claims to influence consumers. Further research would be needed to support (or refute) Bluebird's claims.