

The Process of Research Methods in Psychology, 2nd Edition

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Test Bank
(correct answers in red)

Chapter 2

Multiple Choice:

- (1) “How often do teenagers feel depressed?” is an example of a _____ research question.
- (a) predictive
 - (b) causal
 - (c) descriptive**
 - (d) non-empirical
- (2) “Does lack of sleep cause depression?” is an example of a _____ research question.
- (a) predictive
 - (b) causal**
 - (c) descriptive
 - (d) non-empirical
- (3) A theory is
- (a) an explanation of a phenonema.**
 - (b) the same as a prediction.
 - (c) cannot be tested with the scientific method.
 - (d) all of the above.
- (4) Which of the following can help a researcher conduct a literature review?
- (a) PsycINFO
 - (b) reading book chapters
 - (c) reading journal articles
 - (d) attending a conference
 - (e) all of the above**
- (5) A literature review is
- (a) the same as a journal article.
 - (b) only conducted with books.
 - (c) a detailed review of past research in a topic area.**
 - (d) never conducted using PsycINFO.
- (6) To get the most up-to-date information on research being conducted in an area of psychology one should
- (a) read journal articles.
 - (b) read book chapters.
 - (c) attend a conference.**

- (d) do a web search.
- (7) Which of the following can be used to search for research articles in PsycINFO?
- (a) Topic of the article
 - (b) Author of the article
 - (c) Word in the abstract or title of the article
 - (d) All of the above (all are possible using PsycINFO)
- (8) An Abstract of a journal article that adheres to APA guidelines
- (a) can be as long as you want it to be.
 - (b) can include extra information about the study that you forgot to include in the body of the paper.
 - (c) must include a description of every result found in the study.
 - (d) is written in order to define abstract terms used in the rest of the paper.
 - (e) none of the above.
- (9) According to APA guidelines, the Participants section is a subsection of the _____ section.
- (a) Reference
 - (b) Results
 - (c) Method
 - (d) Introduction
- (10) In what section of a published journal article will you find graphs or tables of the summary data?
- (a) Results
 - (b) Hypotheses
 - (c) Participants
 - (d) none of the above
- (11) A well-written Discussion section of a journal article should begin with
- (a) a review of the hypotheses made in the Introduction.
 - (b) a comparison with past studies.
 - (c) suggestions for future work.
 - (d) a description of limitations of the study.
- (12) Theory-driven hypotheses rely on _____ reasoning, whereas data-driven hypotheses rely on _____ reasoning.
- (a) descriptive; causal
 - (b) causal; descriptive
 - (c) deductive; inductive
 - (d) inductive; deductive
- (13) If a researcher makes a hypothesis for a study based on results that were reported in previous studies, they are making a _____ hypothesis.
- (a) theory-driven

- (b) data-driven
 - (c) causal
 - (d) descriptive
- (14) Research questions for psychological studies should be
- (a) important for understanding behavior in a particular area.
 - (b) answerable using the scientific method.
 - (c) questions already answered in previous studies.
 - (d) (a) and (b) only.
 - (e) all of the above.
- (15) Which section of an APA style article should provide enough information about the way the study was conducted to allow researchers to replicate the study if they wish?
- (a) Introduction
 - (b) Method
 - (c) References
 - (d) Discussion
 - (e) Results
- (16) Which of the following lists sections of an APA style article in the correct order of appearance in the article?
- (a) Abstract, Introduction, Method, Results, Discussion
 - (b) Introduction, Method, Discussion, Abstract
 - (c) Results, Method, Discussion, References
 - (d) References, Abstract, Discussion, Results
- (17) The best database to use to find journal articles in the area of physiological psychology is
- (a) ERIC.
 - (b) PsycINFO.
 - (c) PubMed.
 - (d) Google.
- (18) Predicting that a dog should breathe because all mammals breathe and all dogs are mammals is an example of _____ reasoning.
- (a) inductive
 - (b) deductive
 - (c) causal
 - (d) descriptive
- (19) Predicting that all dogs can run, because one was dog was seen running is an example of _____ reasoning.
- (a) inductive
 - (b) deductive
 - (c) causal
 - (d) descriptive

- (20) Research questions for psychological research can be developed from
- (a) a researcher's interests.
 - (b) reading past research studies on a topic.
 - (c) reading a book on a topic.
 - (d) all of the above.
- (21) Choosing a research question is the _____ step in the research process.
- (a) first
 - (b) second
 - (c) third
 - (d) fourth
- (22) Explanations of behavior that need to be tested are called:
- (a) results
 - (b) findings
 - (c) theories
 - (d) descriptions
- (23) A research question that asks about the presence of behavior, how frequently it is exhibited, or whether there is a relationship between different behaviors is a:
- (a) descriptive research question
 - (b) causal research question
 - (c) fundamental research question
 - (d) vital research question
- (24) A research question that asks what causes specific behaviors to occur is a:
- (a) descriptive research question
 - (b) causal research question
 - (c) fundamental research question
 - (d) vital research question
- (25) A hypothesis for a study that is based on a theory about the behavior of interest is a:
- (a) theory-driven hypothesis
 - (b) data-driven hypothesis
 - (c) causal hypothesis
 - (d) descriptive hypothesis

True/False

- (26) Research questions are never descriptive.

False

- (27) Researchers should consider how appropriate their question is for both scientific methods and the specific field of study before moving on to designing a study.

True

(28) Conducting a literature review will ensure that a new study will add to the knowledge in an area without duplicating what is already known.

True

(29) Empirical journal articles are considered secondary sources for research information, because they are written by the researchers who conducted the research and details of the study are provided.

False

(30) The Methods section provides a summary of the data (often in tables or figures) and information about the statistical tests that were performed to analyze the data.

False

(31) Theory-driven hypotheses are made from the predictions of a theory.

True

(32) A theory-driven hypothesis involves inductive reasoning in that a researcher is taking a general statement about behavior (the theory) and making a specific prediction (the hypothesis) about the study from this general statement.

False

(33) Google Scholar will search the Web for academic journals and books to find articles relevant to a topic or written by a specific author.

True

(34) An introduction is a short summary of the study that allows readers to decide if the article is relevant to their literature review without their reading the entire article.

False

(35) The review process for book chapters is variable and may not be as rigorous as that for journal articles.

True

Short Answer:

(36) Explain the difference between an empirical journal article and a popular magazine article.

A popular magazine article is written to inform a lay audience about a topic. Research may be described in the article, but it will not be described in detail and may not always accurately represent all aspects of the research studies described. An empirical journal article describes a research study in detail and is written to allow other researchers to be informed about other studies in an area and their findings.

(37) Explain why a Google search will not provide a good literature review of a topic area in psychology?

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Google searches will find information on a topic, but will not provide a thorough search for relevant journal articles on a topic area. Searchable databases of psychology journals, such as PsycINFO are the best way to conduct a literature review.

(38) Describe how you would conduct a literature review for the research question “Do symptoms of depression improve with cognitive therapy?”

Answers will vary, but should include searching a database such as PsycINFO using keyword or topic words such as “depression” and “cognitive therapy” and combining results from these searches.

(39) Explain the difference between theory-driven and data-driven hypotheses.

Theory-driven hypotheses are made based on predictions made for a study by a theory of behavior in an area of psychology. A theory-driven hypothesis allows a test of the theory and relies on deductive reasoning. Data-driven hypotheses are made from the results of past studies. They rely on inductive reasoning.

(40) Explain the difference between descriptive and causal research questions.

Descriptive research questions are made to learn about how a behavior is exhibited, the frequency with which it is exhibited, and/or the situations under which a behavior is exhibited. Causal research questions are made to test whether a particular factor or factors causes a behavior to occur.