CHAPTER 2: Research Methodology

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Scientific observations are:
   A. casual
   B. objective
   C. biased
   D. none of the above

   ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 2.1 What Is Scientific Inquiry?
   TOP: I MSC: Remembering

2. Dr. Arthur examines the influence of social norms on binge drinking among college students. Dr. Arthur is engaged in:
   A. rational analysis
   B. scientific inquiry
   C. critical thinking
   D. observational study

   ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 2.1 What Is Scientific Inquiry?
   TOP: I.A MSC: Understanding

3. The most important distinction between the scientific method and casual observation is that scientific inquiry is more:
   A. abstract
   B. complex
   C. rational
   D. objective

   ANS: D DIF: Difficult REF: 2.1 What Is Scientific Inquiry?
   TOP: I.A MSC: Applying

4. Based on your text's discussion of scientific inquiry, the goals of psychological science include each of the following EXCEPT:
   A. explaining behavior and mental processes
   B. controlling the causes of behavior and mental processes
   C. synthesizing behavior and mental processes
   D. predicting behavior and mental processes

   ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 2.1 What Is Scientific Inquiry?
   TOP: I.A.ii MSC: Applying

5. The scientific method consists of which of the following elements?
   A. theories
   B. hypotheses
   C. research
   D. all of the above

   ANS: D DIF: Easy
   REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
   TOP: II MSC: Remembering

6. Which of the following statements is true of theories in science?
   A. Good theories lead to a number of testable hypotheses.
   B. A good hypothesis will support a number of different theories.
   C. Good theories are likely to be supported by research findings.
   D. Both A and C are true.

   ANS: A DIF: Moderate
   REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
   TOP: II.A MSC: Remembering

7. When researchers collect enough data to develop an explanation of why people behave as they do, the researchers are creating a(n):
   A. theory
   B. experiment
   C. hypothesis
   D. generalization

   ANS: A DIF: Easy
   REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
   TOP: II.A.i MSC: Remembering

8. A(n) _____ provides an explanation of how an observable phenomenon works.
   A. theory
   B. hypothesis
   C. experiment
   D. none of the above

   ANS: A DIF: Easy
   REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
   TOP: II.A.i MSC: Remembering

9. Which of the following formal elements of the scientific method consists of a set of interconnected ideas or concepts?
   A. a theory
   B. a hypothesis
   C. an experiment
   D. none of the above

   ANS: A DIF: Easy
   REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
   TOP: II.A.ii MSC: Remembering

10. Psychologist Jean Piaget observed children to see how they solved problems. Over the course of many studies, he was able to spot general patterns of behavior. This led him to connect different concepts and behaviors within a single:
    A. theory
    B. hypothesis
    C. experiment
    D. sample

    ANS: A DIF: Moderate
    REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
    TOP: II.A.ii MSC: Understanding

11. A specific prediction of behavior that is tested in an experiment is called a:
    A. theory
    B. hypothesis
    C. sample
    D. naturalistic observation

    ANS: B DIF: Easy
    REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
    TOP: II.B.i MSC: Remembering

12. A researcher believes that presenting possible suspects in a lineup one at a time instead of in a group would lead to more accurate identification of the true suspect. This belief represents a(n):
    A. hypothesis
    B. independent variable
    C. response performance
    D. theory

    ANS: A DIF: Moderate
    REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
    TOP: II.B.i MSC: Understanding

13. According to some psychologists, Sigmund Freud's theory of the meaning of dreams was not a successful theory because:

A. it was too socially controversial
B. he developed the theory from previous ideas
C. it did not lead to many testable hypotheses
D. it was based on research later shown to be invalid

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.B.ii MSC: Remembering

14. A(n) _____ is a specific, testable prediction about the result that, if the theory is correct, will support the theory.
A. replication
B. hypothesis
C. experiment
D. all of the above

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.B.ii MSC: Remembering

15. George is looking for a research project. He could make use of theory because:
A. theories are shown to be true, so subsequent research is successful
B. one of the benefits of theories is that they lead to testable hypotheses
C. a theory can be successfully replicated by researchers
D. theories are likely to result in serendipity, which leads to successful research

ANS: B DIF: Difficult
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.B.ii MSC: Applying

16. Research that is done to test a theory:
A. typically involves naturalistic observation
B. has to rely on self-report methods
C. involves systematic collection of data
D. relies on positive correlations rather than negative correlations

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.C MSC: Remembering

17. Scientists conduct _____, which involves the careful and systematic collection of data.
A. hypotheses
B. replication
C. research
D. reliability

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.C MSC: Remembering

18. With _____, one repeats a study to determine whether the same results are obtained.
A. reliability
B. variability
C. replication
D. data

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.D MSC: Remembering

19. When researchers document that a phenomenon is real by repeating a study done by another scientist, they are engaging in:

A. meta-analysis
B. experience sampling
C. replication
D. correlational research

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.D MSC: Remembering

20. Psychologists have greater confidence in research results when:
A. the data involve stimulus judgments
B. the research has used participant observation
C. the results are replicated
D. there is an experimenter expectancy effect

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.1 The Scientific Method Depends on Theories, Hypotheses, and Research
TOP: II.D MSC: Remembering

21. According your text, physiologists David Hubel and Torsten Wiesel's Nobel Prize–winning research on the function of visual cells in cats' brains illustrates the value of _____ in scientific research.
A. serendipity
B. replication
C. objectivity
D. abstraction

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 2.1 Unexpected Findings Can Be Valuable
TOP: III.A MSC: Applying

22. Which of the following statements is true of serendipity in science?
A. Serendipity plays no important role in science because unexpected findings have always been unimportant.
B. Serendipity has led to groundbreaking discoveries that immediately resulted in the Nobel Prize for researchers.
C. Serendipitous findings in science illustrate that research does not always proceed in an orderly fashion.
D. None of the above are true.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 2.1 Unexpected Findings Can Be Valuable
TOP: III.A MSC: Remembering

23. Which of the following alternatives is the closest meaning to the term *serendipitous*?
A. erratic
B. unexpected
C. significant
D. systematic

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 2.1 Unexpected Findings Can Be Valuable
TOP: III.A MSC: Applying

24. Something is considered a variable if it:
A. has no operational definition
B. can be manipulated by an experimenter
C. involves random assignment
D. is theoretical rather than concrete

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 What Types of Studies Are Used in Psychological Research?
TOP: IV MSC: Remembering

25. Something that can be measured or manipulated by an experimenter is considered:
A. a descriptive statistic
B. data
C. a confound
D. a variable

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 What Types of Studies Are Used in Psychological Research?
TOP: IV MSC: Remembering

26. The precise way a researcher measures and defines a variable is known as the:
A. operational definition
B. response accuracy
C. stimulus judgment
D. central tendency

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 What Types of Studies Are Used in Psychological Research?
TOP: IV MSC: Remembering

27. Which of the following statements is true of variables in studies?
A. A variable is something that can change but is not measured in a study.
B. A variable is something that can be measured but rarely changes.
C. A variable is that aspect of a study that is unchanging.
D. A variable is something that can change and be measured.

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 What Types of Studies Are Used in Psychological Research?
TOP: IV MSC: Remembering

28. Operational definitions make it possible for researchers to do what?
A. identify variables
B. record a variable's quantity
C. identify variables and record their quantity
D. none of the above

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 What Types of Studies Are Used in Psychological Research?
TOP: IV MSC: Remembering

29. If a researcher defined happiness based on the number of times a person smiled in a 15-minute period, the number of smiles would be:
A. an open-ended measurement
B. the operational definition of happiness
C. a meta-analysis of the variable
D. a measure of reaction time

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 What Types of Studies Are Used in Psychological Research?
TOP: IV MSC: Understanding

30. It would not be possible for a researcher to study creativity in an experiment if the researcher:
A. had to rely on inferential statistics
B. did not account for the directionality problem
C. did not create an operational definition to measure creativity
D. did not measure event-related potential

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 What Types of Studies Are Used in Psychological Research?
TOP: IV MSC: Understanding

31. Which of the following activities would NOT be considered a descriptive study?
A. taking notes on the behavior of members in a cult
B. measuring the selection of food items in a cafeteria
C. examining the effects of a new medication in alleviating depression

D. counting the number of mating behaviors in baboons in the natural habitat

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.i MSC: Remembering

32. If a psychologist's goal is to describe behavior or mental processes, she might conduct a(n) _____ study.
A. experimental
B. descriptive
C. inferential
D. correlational

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.i MSC: Applying

33. In which of the following types of descriptive studies does a researcher remain separated from the situation and makes no attempt to change it?
A. naturalistic observation
B. participant observation
C. longitudinal study
D. cross-sectional study

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.a MSC: Remembering

34. If a researcher wanted to study the behavior of protesters who were in a closed group and did not easily admit new people, the researcher would probably use which of the following approaches to study them?
A. naturalistic observation
B. participant observation
C. meta-analysis
D. closed-ended questions

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.a MSC: Understanding

35. When a researcher joins a social group and talks to the members in order to study that group, the approach is referred to as:
A. a self-report method
B. participant observation
C. experience sampling
D. response performance

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.b MSC: Remembering

36. In which of the following types of descriptive studies do researchers involve themselves in the situation of interest?
A. naturalistic observation
B. participant observation
C. longitudinal study
D. cross-sectional study

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.b MSC: Remembering

37. Data collection is particularly problematic when a researcher uses participant observation because:
A. the researcher is able to make use of only closed-ended questions
B. the researcher fails to recognize the third variable problem
C. random error occurs in the initial stages of observation

D. the researcher loses objectivity in participating with a group

ANS: D DIF: Difficult
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.b MSC: Applying

38. Someone who is interested in studying age-related developmental changes as they unfold over time would likely use what type of descriptive design?
A. naturalistic observation
B. participant observation
C. longitudinal study
D. cross-sectional study

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.c MSC: Remembering

39. Anam is studying the intelligence of a group of people as they progress through early adulthood to old age. Her approach should involve:
A. cross-sectional research
B. experimental research
C. random assignment
D. longitudinal research

ANS: D DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.c MSC: Remembering

40. Relative to cross-sectional research studies, longitudinal studies are:
A. less subject to participants dropping out
B. less expensive, but take more time
C. more expensive and take more time
D. none of the above

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.c MSC: Remembering

41. Which of the following phenomena would be best researched using a longitudinal study?
A. the change in children's concepts of sharing from infancy through adolescence
B. the difference between children and adults in their responses to a natural disaster
C. the frequency with which people think about sources of stress in their lives over the course of a single day
D. the rates of hospitalization of psychiatric patients over the course of the last century

ANS: A DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.A.ii.c MSC: Understanding

42. When researchers collect data in a study, if they unconsciously code a person's behavior to match their expectations, we say there is:
A. a directionality problem
B. an observer bias
C. a sampling error
D. reactivity

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Remembering

43. If a researcher does not have a clear operational definition of the behavior he is studying, he might experience:

A. observer bias
B. reactivity
C. confounds
D. a directionality problem

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Remembering

44. When a researcher's bias affects the coding of data, there is a problem with:
A. the Hawthorne effect
B. experimenter expectancy
C. a third variable
D. confounds

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Remembering

45. When a researcher who is collecting data does NOT know a study's hypothesis, the study is a:
A. blind study
B. confounded study
C. meta-analytic study
D. reactivity study

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Remembering

46. In scientific research, a researcher's expectations about a study can lead to systematic errors in observation. This phenomenon is called:
A. observer bias
B. critical thinking skills
C. the third variable problem
D. the directionality problem

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Remembering

47. The psychologist Robert Rosenthal told student researchers that some rats in a study would learn a task quickly and others would learn the task slowly. In reality, there was no difference in the rats' ability to learn the task. When the students tested the rats, the animals' learning matched what the students were told. These results reflect the:
A. Hawthorne effect
B. experimenter expectancy effect
C. directionality problem
D. third variable problem

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Understanding

48. Which of the following is likely to be associated with observer bias?
A. reactivity
B. experience sampling
C. experimenter expectancy
D. the Hawthorne effect

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Understanding

49. Gwen is studying the effects of comedic film on depressed participants. She is concerned that the data collectors will produce biased observations if they know the purpose of the study. She addresses this problem by using a(n):
A. blind study
B. correlational study
C. experimental study
D. descriptive study

ANS: A DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Descriptive Studies Involve Observing and Classifying Behavior
TOP: V.B MSC: Understanding

50. In which of the following types of study do researchers examine the extent to which variables are naturally related in the real world? That is, there is NO attempt by the researcher to influence the relation among the variables.
A. descriptive study
B. case study
C. experimental study
D. correlational study

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.A MSC: Remembering

51. Researchers are likely to choose a correlational design when:
A. they are concerned that there will be a third variable problem
B. the directionality problem is likely
C. it is impossible to control the variables being studied
D. they are using psychophysiological assessments

ANS: C DIF: Difficult
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.A MSC: Applying

52. When two variables are correlated, it is not clear which one is a causal variable and which is an effect. This ambiguity reflects:
A. the third variable problem
B. random error
C. selection bias
D. the directionality problem

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.B MSC: Remembering

53. In correlational studies, there is ambiguity as to which variable is the cause and which variable is the effect. This phenomenon is known as:
A. observer bias
B. experimenter expectancy effects
C. the directionality problem
D. the third variable problem

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.B MSC: Remembering

54. Using correlational studies, psychologists have studied whether exposure to violence in the media leads to violent behavior. They have found that participants who have been exposed to more violence in the media are, in general, more violent. It is not clear from such research which one causes the other. The problem in interpreting these results involves:
A. directionality
B. selection bias
C. sampling error
D. confounds

ANS: A DIF: Difficult
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.B MSC: Understanding

55. In correlational studies, it is always possible that an unmeasured variable is responsible for the relation of interest. This complication is known as:

A. observer bias
B. experimenter expectancy effects
C. the directionality problem
D. the third variable problem

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.C MSC: Remembering

56. Samir is conducting a correlational study, and he cannot determine whether one variable causes another. One reason for this indetermination is that the additional variables that he did not study could influence the variables he did study. This result reflects the problem with:
A. selection bias
B. response accuracy
C. the third variable problem
D. the occurrence of random error

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.C MSC: Understanding

57. There is a correlation between depression and memory: When people suffer from depression frequently, they often display worse memory than people who suffer from depression less frequently. Genetics, however, may have an effect on a study participant's depression and memory. This combination of factors is known as:
A. selection bias
B. the experimenter expectancy effect
C. the directionality problem
D. the third variable problem

ANS: D DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Correlational Studies Examine How Variables Are Related
TOP: VI.C MSC: Understanding

58. When a researcher manipulates a variable to see what effect the manipulation has on a study participant's behavior, the research design involves:
A. a correlational study
B. an experiment
C. naturalistic observation
D. participant observation

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.A
MSC: Remembering

59. The variable that a researcher manipulates in an experiment is called the:
A. independent variable
B. dependent variable
C. confounding variable
D. stimulus

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.A
MSC: Remembering

60. The variable that a researcher measures in an experiment to see if it has changed after a treatment is called the:
A. independent variable
B. dependent variable
C. confounding variable
D. stimulus

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.A
MSC: Remembering

61. Which of the following types of studies allows the researcher to establish causality between an independent variable and a dependent variable?

A. descriptive studies
B. correlational studies
C. experiment
D. none of the above

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.A
MSC: Remembering

62. Researchers assess the baseline performance of people with respect to a given behavior so they can identify what happens to behavior when they manipulate a variable. The use of baseline groups and groups that experience a manipulation of a variable is characteristic of:
A. correlational studies
B. longitudinal research
C. naturalistic observation
D. experimental research

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.A
MSC: Applying

63. A research team told one group of people they would hear a set of jokes that were very funny and a second group that they would hear jokes that were not very funny. A third group was not told anything about the jokes. The jokes in all conditions were the same. Research with this design is:
A. observational
B. correlational
C. experimental
D. psychophysiological

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.A
MSC: Understanding

64. Wilhelm randomly assigns participants to two groups and compares the group that receives a treatment with the group that receives no treatment. The group that gets the treatment is the:
A. variable group
B. confounded group
C. experimental group
D. control group

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.B
MSC: Understanding

65. Researchers investigated whether mood affects participants' ratings of jokes. Participants in the first mood group read sad statements. In the second group, participants read neutral statements. In this study, the participants who read the sad statements constituted the:
A. control group
B. population
C. experimental condition
D. observational group

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.B
MSC: Understanding

66. Paloma randomly assigns participants to two groups and compares the group that receives a treatment with the group that receives no treatment. The group that gets no treatment is the:
A. variable group
B. confounded group
C. experimental group
D. control group

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.C
MSC: Understanding

67. When confounds are present in an experiment, they result in:

A. an increase in the possibility of selection bias
B. a decrease in the reactivity of the experimental participants
C. possible alternative explanations for the results of the experiment
D. the same treatment for experimental and control groups in the experiment

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.D
MSC: Remembering

68. When an experiment lacks the proper control, which of the following unintended variables can influence the outcome of a study?
A. confound
B. independent variable
C. dependent variable
D. all of the above

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.D
MSC: Remembering

69. Bai is conducting a study on learning. When she manipulates an independent variable, it is possible that some other factor, such as noise in the hall, can affect learning in one of the groups but not in the other. This possibility reflects the presence of:
A. a confound
B. a dependent variable
C. selection bias
D. random assignment

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 An Experiment Involves Manipulating Conditions TOP: VII.D
MSC: Understanding

70. When identifying the pool of participants who will be in a research project, psychologists generally use:
A. random assignment
B. random sampling
C. convenience sampling
D. control participants

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.A MSC: Remembering

71. If a researcher wants to be able to generalize about a population using data pulled from a sample, it is best to use:
A. a convenience sample
B. experience sampling
C. a descriptive study
D. a random sample

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.A MSC: Remembering

72. Which of the following sampling techniques gives each member of the population an equal and independent chance of being selected to participate?
A. random sampling
B. convenience sampling
C. random assignment
D. selection bias

ANS: A DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.A MSC: Remembering

73. Because psychologists regularly use college students as research participants, the research does NOT involve:
    A. random sampling
    B. convenience sampling
    C. selection bias
    D. populations

    ANS: A DIF: Moderate
    REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
    TOP: VIII.A MSC: Applying

74. One criticism that is made of many experimental studies in psychology is that:
    A. human behavior is almost impossible to study scientifically
    B. human behavior is seldom related to animal behavior
    C. experimental studies are conducted in artificial, laboratory settings
    D. it is very difficult to separate the effects of independent and dependent variables

    ANS: C DIF: Easy
    REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
    TOP: VIII.B MSC: Remembering

75. Researchers have used driving simulators to investigate whether talking on a cell phone impairs the ability to drive. The published studies show that using a cell phone has a detrimental effect on attention to driving. One valid criticism of these studies is that:
    A. it is common knowledge that cell phone use does not have an impact on driving ability
    B. behavior is almost impossible to predict when it involves a complex set of behaviors like driving an automobile
    C. people are going to talk on cell phones while driving even if their driving ability is impaired
    D. participants may not take simulated driving tasks seriously because they know there are no real consequences if their driving behavior is poor

    ANS: D DIF: Moderate
    REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
    TOP: VIII.B MSC: Applying

76. Jafar conducted an experiment with student participants in which he investigated their reactions to advertisements that used humor. When analyzing his results, he should take into account that:
    A. there are likely to be many confounds in his methodology, so his results may not be reliable
    B. by using random assignment of participants to groups, it is likely that he avoided selection bias
    C. he has a convenience sample and may not be able to generalize his findings to the larger population of adults
    D. self-report methods are not an accurate way to get authentic reactions to the advertisements

    ANS: C DIF: Difficult
    REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
    TOP: VIII.B MSC: Applying

77. A researcher wants to investigate the response of students on a college campus to a plan to turn a grassy area into a parking lot. She plans to give a questionnaire to a random sample of students. It is likely that:
    A. her results would generalize to the population of interest to her
    B. she would not be able to generalize her results because she is using a convenience sample
    C. if she repeated the study with another random sample, she would get very different results

D. her findings are not representative of the attitudes of students on the campus

ANS: A DIF: Difficult
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.B MSC: Applying

78. Unintended differences between the groups in an experiment may introduce confounds; these differences reflect a condition known as _____ bias.
A. selection
B. assignment
C. directionality
D. sampling

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.C MSC: Applying

79. Unintended differences between the groups in an experiment reflect _____ bias; these differences stem from a failure to follow the principle of random _____.
A. sampling; selection
B. sampling; assignment
C. selection; sampling
D. selection; assignment

ANS: D DIF: Difficult
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.C MSC: Applying

80. In order to maximize the likelihood that experimental and control groups are similar before any treatment is begun, researchers typically use:
A. naturalistic observation
B. random assignment
C. sampling
D. participant observation

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.D MSC: Remembering

81. A psychologist wants to create two groups that are as similar as possible at the beginning of an experiment. To do this, she should use:
A. random sampling
B. random assignment
C. self-report methods
D. participant observation

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.D MSC: Understanding

82. If a researcher created two groups by assigning the first 30 people to the experimental group and the last 30 to the control group, the process would violate the principle of:
A. variability
B. generalization
C. random assignment
D. correlational research

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.D MSC: Understanding

83. The fact that small samples are less reliable indicators of typical behavior than large samples is associated with the principle of:
A. psychophysiological assessment
B. descriptive statistics
C. the use of random sampling
D. the law of large numbers

ANS: D DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.2 Random Sampling and Random Assignment Are Important for Research
TOP: VIII.D MSC: Remembering

84. The systematic recording of overt behavior of human and nonhuman animals in their natural environment involves what research strategy?
A. observational techniques
B. case studies
C. psychophysiological assessment
D. response performance strategies

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Observing Is an Unobtrusive Strategy
TOP: IX.A MSC: Remembering

85. Pablo is conducting research and trying to determine whether he should monitor the presence versus the absence of a behavior or how long a behavior occurs. What approach to research is he most likely using?
A. psychophysiological assessment
B. observational research
C. self-report method
D. experience sampling

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 Observing Is an Unobtrusive Strategy
TOP: IX.A MSC: Understanding

86. Philippe wants to study the number of times that close friends touch each other in their interactions. His interpretations of this behavior would need to take into consideration:
A. cultural differences in the meaning of touches
B. whether participants were randomly assigned to groups
C. whether the directionality problem is an issue in the study
D. that participant observation generally results in reactivity

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 Observing Is an Unobtrusive Strategy
TOP: IX.A MSC: Understanding

87. When people are aware of being observed, they might change their behaviors. This phenomenon illustrates:
A. variability
B. experimenter expectancy
C. random assignment
D. reactivity

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Observing Is an Unobtrusive Strategy
TOP: IX.B MSC: Remembering

88. The Hawthorne effect refers to changes in behavior associated with:
A. reactivity
B. observer bias
C. experimenter expectancy
D. informed consent

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Observing Is an Unobtrusive Strategy
TOP: IX.B MSC: Remembering

89. In which of the following studies would the concept of reactivity be most relevant?
A. a blind study
B. a case study
C. an observational study
D. an electrophysiological study

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Observing Is an Unobtrusive Strategy
TOP: IX.B MSC: Understanding

90. If you wanted to conduct observational research but were concerned that the people you observed would change their behaviors due to reactivity, you could:
A. avoid debriefing them
C. conduct culturally sensitive research

B. use a blinded study
D. rule out alternative explanations

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Observing Is an Unobtrusive Strategy
TOP: IX.B MSC: Understanding

91. An extensive study of a single person or a few people is characteristic of:
A. self-report research
C. the scientific method
B. case studies
D. psychophysiological assessment

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Case Studies Examine Individual Lives and Organizations
TOP: X.A MSC: Remembering

92. A study of the experiences of a synesthete—for example, a person who experiences a visual sensation when hearing a sound—is likely to make use of:
A. random selection
C. cross-sectional research
B. a case study
D. participant observation

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.3 Case Studies Examine Individual Lives and Organizations
TOP: X.A MSC: Understanding

93. A self-report technique that might require a respondent to retrieve a great deal of information from memory involves:
A. experience sampling
C. psychophysical assessments
B. stimulus judgments
D. open-ended questions

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.A MSC: Remembering

94. Self-report questions in which the investigator provides answers from which the respondent chooses are called:
A. closed-ended
C. controlled
B. observational
D. experimental

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.A MSC: Remembering

95. Self-report questions on which the respondent can generate his or her own responses are called:
A. observational
C. operational
B. open-ended
D. event-related

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.A MSC: Remembering

96. If a researcher asks a group of participants to record their thoughts or feelings at random times of the day, the best approach would be to use:
A. correlational research
C. longitudinal data
B. experimental research
D. experience sampling

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.A MSC: Remembering

97. Investigators who are interested in gaining a lot of information about group attitudes quickly are likely to use what kind of research approach?
A. case study
C. participant observation

B. psychophysical assessment
D. self-report

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.A MSC: Understanding

98. If a researcher wants to assess participants' feelings at varied times during the day and in many different locations, a useful methodology would be:
A. experience sampling
B. random selection
C. an experiment
D. a case study

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.A MSC: Understanding

99. Jamal wants to find out whether the customers of his coffee shop prefer that he add booths or keep his tables and chairs. A researcher would be likely to use what kind of study to help him?
A. participant observation
B. self-report
C. correlational
D. experimental

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.A MSC: Understanding

100. In order to look good, respondents sometimes give incorrect answers on a questionnaire. This behavior illustrates:
A. the better-than-average effect
B. socially desirable responding
C. an experimental confound
D. selection bias

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.B MSC: Remembering

101. If a participant responds that she is getting a grade of A in a class but really is getting a B, she might not be lying; she might remember only her high test scores in that class. Such behavior involves:
A. observer bias
B. experimenter expectancy
C. better-than-average effect
D. socially desirable responding

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.B MSC: Understanding

102. In observational studies, participants sometimes show reactivity. A related phenomenon in self-report studies is called:
A. participant observation
B. experimenter expectancy
C. socially desirable responding
D. the third variable problem

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.B MSC: Understanding

103. With respect to the better-than-average effect, which of the following statements is true?
A. The effect is absent in Asian cultures.
B. The effect is less pronounced among Asians than among people in the United States.
C. The effect is just as pronounced among Asians as it is among people in the United States.
D. The effect is more pronounced among Asians than among people in the United States.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 Asking Takes a More Active Approach
TOP: XI.B MSC: Applying

104. A researcher would be likely to use a reaction time study in order to see how quickly mental processes proceed when a person solves a problem. Reaction time is an example of:

A. response performance
B. stimulus judgment
C. response accuracy
D. experimental treatment

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Response Performance Measures the Processing of Information
TOP: XII.A MSC: Understanding

105. If a researcher wants to see how quickly a person can process complex information, that researcher is likely to use:
A. psychophysiological assessment
B. stimulus judgments
C. reactivity
D. reaction time studies

ANS: D DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.3 Response Performance Measures the Processing of Information
TOP: XII.A MSC: Remembering

106. If a researcher applies scalp electrodes to get measurements of brain activity, the researcher is using:
A. PET scans
B. fMRIs
C. EEG recordings
D. transcranial magnetic stimulation

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Remembering

107. A researcher that wants to get a sense of overall levels of electrical brain activity would use:
A. PET scans
B. MRI imaging
C. transcranial magnetic stimulation
D. EEG recordings

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Remembering

108. The most powerful imaging technique, which documents changes in magnetic forces in the brain, is:
A. fMRI
B. MRI
C. psychophysiological assessment
D. EEG recording

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Remembering

109. Researchers monitor changes in blood oxygen level when they record brain activity using:
A. an EEG recording
B. a PET scan
C. transcranial magnetic stimulation
D. an fMRI

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Remembering

110. Which of the following brain imaging techniques measures blood flow directly by tracking a harmless radioactive substance?
A. PET
B. MRI
C. fMRI
D. all of the above

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Remembering

111. Dr. Brierly wishes to study the response of the autonomic nervous system to emotionally arousing stimuli. The best approach for such research is that of:
A. experience sampling
B. psychophysiological assessment
C. participant observation
D. reactivity

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Understanding

112. The approach that would be LEAST useful in identifying how a specific region of the brain functions with a person engaged in a given task would be a(n):
A. EEG recording
B. MRI
C. fMRI
D. PET scan

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Understanding

113. A limitation of EEG recording in brain research is that:
A. physiological recordings based on EEG are more useful for nonhuman animals than humans
B. researchers cannot always identify the specific areas of the brain generating the electrical activity seen in the EEG recordings
C. EEG recordings record only changes in mood and arousal, not how active the brain is as a whole
D. EEG recordings require the use of radioactive glucose for taking measurements in different areas of the brain

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Remembering

114. Transcranial magnetic stimulation investigates the activity of a given region of the brain through the:
A. monitoring of overall brain functioning and recording of increases in magnetic activity in the region of interest
B. interruption of functioning of the brain in the region of interest by sending a magnetic pulse to that region
C. recording of changing levels of oxygen flow in the area of interest in the brain
D. monitoring of glucose use in the area of interest in the brain

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Remembering

115. Lily is studying a participant's arousal level as the participant watches a violent video. Lily is likely to use:
A. psychophysiological assessment
B. experience sampling
C. stimulus judgments
D. participant observation

ANS: A DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Understanding

116. Laticia is studying the brain's metabolic activity to see how certain brain areas respond to a visual tracking task. Her research is likely to use:
A. EEG recording
B. an fMRI
C. transcranial magnetic stimulation
D. event-related potential

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Understanding

117. What approach have researchers used to document changes in the brain's metabolic activity during problem solving?
A. EEG recording
B. MRI
C. transcranial magnetic stimulation
D. PET scan

ANS: D DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.3 Body/Brain Activity Can Be Measured Directly TOP: XIII.A
MSC: Understanding

118. Your text suggests that during psychology's history, research with animals has been especially important in the area of:
A. learning
B. development
C. memory
D. personality

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Research with Animals Provides Important Data TOP: XIV.A
MSC: Remembering

119. Throughout psychology's history, research with animals has been especially important in the area of _____. Today, animal research is becoming increasingly important in the area of _____.
A. personality; behavioral genetics
B. learning; personality
C. behavioral genetics; learning
D. learning; behavioral genetics

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.3 Research with Animals Provides Important Data TOP: XIV.A
MSC: Applying

120. Before psychologists can begin a research project, they must receive approval from:
A. the American Psychological Association
B. the Association of Psychological Science
C. the National Science Foundation
D. the institutional review board

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Remembering

121. The matter of who has access to data collected in an experiment is associated with which ethical issue?
A. deception
B. informed consent
C. anonymity
D. confidentiality

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Remembering

122. The process by which any deception used in a study is explained to a participant is called:
A. debriefing
B. informed consent
C. relief of confidentiality
D. relief from relative risk

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Remembering

123. If a researcher was denied permission to conduct a study because participants might suffer harm, that decision would have been made by the:
A. American Psychological Association
B. institutional review board
C. National Science Foundation
D. Association of Psychological Science

ANS: B DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Understanding

124. If a researcher publicly discussed a participant's responses and named the participant, that researcher would be guilty of violating what specific ethical principle?
A. confidentiality
B. anonymity
C. privacy
D. deception

ANS: A DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Understanding

125. One issue that an institutional review board is likely to concern itself with is:
A. systematic error
B. directionality problems
C. relative risk
D. experimenter expectancy

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Understanding

126. Which of the following sequences best reflects the order of events in a typical experimental session?
A. experiment → informed consent → debriefing
B. debriefing → informed consent → experiment
C. informed consent → debriefing → experiment
D. informed consent → experiment → debriefing

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Applying

127. If a seriously brain-damaged patient cannot give informed consent to participate in medical research, then researchers can:
A. include the person in research only if they provide a complete debriefing at the conclusion of the study
B. relax the requirements regarding the relative risk of participation in the study
C. apply to the American Medical Association to waive the requirement for informed consent
D. obtain consent for the patient to take part in the research by getting permission from a legal guardian

ANS: D DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Remembering

128. When a researcher debriefs her participants, she:
A. removes their undergarments
B. provides a detailed explanation of the study's goals
C. describes the factors that might affect their willingness to participate
D. outlines the general procedure of the study

ANS: B DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Remembering

129. Which of the following statements is true regarding the use of deception in psychological research?
A. It is integral to the conduct of scientifically valid research.
B. It generally decreases the scientific validity of psychological research.
C. It is occasionally necessary to safeguard the validity of the research.
D. It is no longer permissible in psychological research.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Remembering

130. An institutional review board is likely to conclude that there are no troublesome ethical issues associated with which of the following types of study?
A. research in a controlled study in a laboratory
B. surveys on topics such as experiences of sexual abuse
C. naturalistic observation of the conditions in which people are likely to litter in public
D. experiments on learning simple lists of words when the experimenter has deceived participants about the purpose of the study

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Understanding

131. As Dr. O'Malley begins an experiment, he reviews the factors that might affect participants' willingness to take part. Dr. Quick is providing a detailed explanation to participants who have just completed a study. Which of the following statements is true?
A. Dr. O'Malley is obtaining informed consent from his participants. Dr. Quick is debriefing her participants.
B. Dr. O'Malley is debriefing his participants. Dr. Quick is obtaining informed consent from her participants.
C. Both Dr. O'Malley and Dr. Quick are obtaining informed consent from their participants.
D. Both Dr. O'Malley and Dr. Quick are debriefing their participants.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 2.3 There Are Ethical Issues to Consider
TOP: XV.A MSC: Understanding

132. When data collected in research are not useful in addressing the issue that the investigator is studying, we say that the data are NOT:
A. reliable
B. valid
C. systematic
D. statistically significant

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Good Research Requires Valid, Reliable, and Accurate Data
TOP: XVI.A MSC: Remembering

133. Suppose a researcher intended to study people's level of happiness by monitoring how often they smile or laugh when watching a movie. If this measurement does not really indicate level of happiness, psychologists would say that the data are NOT:
A. systematic
B. reliable
C. valid
D. event related

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Good Research Requires Valid, Reliable, and Accurate Data
TOP: XVI.A MSC: Understanding

134. If a researcher's data are reliable:
A. they still might involve a high level of systematic error
B. it is very likely that they are also valid

C. there will be little chance of participant reactivity
D. measurements were probably culturally sensitive

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Good Research Requires Valid, Reliable, and Accurate Data
TOP: XVI.B MSC: Applying

135. If a participant always shows fast reaction times on a visual task not because she is good at the task but because she can hear the experimenter start the presentation and can get ready for the stimulus, her data will show a high level of:
A. validity
B. reactivity
C. selection bias
D. systematic error

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Good Research Requires Valid, Reliable, and Accurate Data
TOP: XVI.C MSC: Understanding

136. If a researcher finds that a participant produces very different scores on a task each time the participant engages in that task, a researcher can conclude that:
A. the measurements are probably valid but not reliable
B. the measurements show a high level of random error
C. the data will show no central tendency
D. there will be a need to use inferential statistics

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Good Research Requires Valid, Reliable, and Accurate Data
TOP: XVI.C MSC: Applying

137. When researchers study multiple groups and report the means for each group, they are reporting:
A. descriptive statistics
B. median values
C. variability
D. standard deviations

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.A
MSC: Remembering

138. The statistic that involves the basic arithmetic average of a set of scores is known as the:
A. mode
B. range
C. mean
D. median

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.B.i
MSC: Remembering

139. The mean, median, and mode are all examples of:
A. inferential statistics
B. measures of central tendency
C. types of variability
D. correlational measures

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.B.i
MSC: Remembering

140. When researchers report a measure of central tendency, they might present:
A. the standard deviation
B. the median
C. inferential statistics
D. the correlation coefficient

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.B.ii
MSC: Remembering

141. If you list a set of scores from the lowest value to the highest, then take the middle value to indicate what is a typical score, you are using the:
A. mean
B. mode
C. median
D. range

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.B.ii
MSC: Remembering

142. The most frequently occurring score in a data set is known as the:
A. mean
B. mode
C. range
D. standard deviation

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.B.iii
MSC: Remembering

143. A store owner wants to make sure she has enough shirts in the right sizes in her inventory, so she buys a lot of shirts in the most popular size. In order to make this purchase, what type of statistic would she want to know?
A. mode
B. mean
C. standard deviation
D. range

ANS: A DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.B.iii
MSC: Understanding

144. The range and standard deviation are examples of:
A. inferential statistics
B. measures of central tendency
C. types of variability
D. correlational measures

ANS: C DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.C
MSC: Remembering

145. The values in a data set range from 60 to 90. If a researcher knows this, then the researcher is aware of the:
A. standard deviation
B. median
C. mode
D. range

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.C
MSC: Remembering

146. If a person wants people to determine the average weight of customers in a store, she could create a questionnaire where people check a category that indicates their weight: 110 to 119 pounds, 120 to 129 pounds, and so forth. What statistic would be useful so she can include enough weight categories on her questionnaire?
A. range
B. median
C. mode
D. mean

ANS: A DIF: Easy

REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.C
MSC: Understanding

147. If you want to know how far apart scores in a data set tend to be, you could use the:
A. mean
B. median
C. mode
D. standard deviation

ANS: D DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.D
MSC: Remembering

148. If a researcher believes that participants in a single group will score very differently from one another on a task, that researcher can find out if that is true by looking at the:
A. mean
B. median
C. correlation coefficient
D. standard deviation

ANS: D DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Descriptive Statistics Provide a Summary of the Data TOP: XVII.D
MSC: Understanding

149. Researchers have found that taller people tend to have higher levels of self-esteem than shorter people. This pattern of data reflects:
A. an inferential statistic
B. a positive correlation
C. measures of central tendency
D. measures of variability

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Correlations Describe the Relationships between Variables
TOP: XVIII.A MSC: Remembering

150. If you created a scatter plot of your data, what type of statistic would you have computed?
A. correlation
B. range
C. median
D. inferential

ANS: A DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Correlations Describe the Relationships between Variables
TOP: XVIII.A MSC: Understanding

151. When you pair two variables, and as one increases so does the other, your data will show:
A. a standardized range
B. a positive correlation
C. inferential statistics
D. validity

ANS: B DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Correlations Describe the Relationships between Variables
TOP: XVIII.A MSC: Remembering

152. When a researcher cannot manipulate variables in a project on the relationship between level of education and income, she will be forced to collect naturally occurring data. The data analysis would probably involve:
A. a correlational analysis
B. descriptive, but not inferential, statistics
C. naturalistic observation
D. selection bias

ANS: A DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Correlations Describe the Relationships between Variables
TOP: XVIII.A MSC: Understanding

153. When you pair two variables, and as one increases the other decreases, your data will show:
A. a standardized range
B. a negative correlation
C. inferential statistics
D. validity

ANS: B DIF: Easy
REF: 2.4 Correlations Describe the Relationships between Variables
TOP: XVIII.B MSC: Remembering

154. Research has shown that some types of behavioral or psychiatric disorders are more prevalent among people with low levels of education. This pattern of data is associated with:
A. inferential statistics
B. descriptive statistics
C. negative correlations
D. standard deviations

ANS: C DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Correlations Describe the Relationships between Variables
TOP: XVIII.B MSC: Understanding

155. Students who study a little for tests tend to make more errors on tests; students who study a lot tend to make fewer errors. If a researcher collected data on such test scores, she would likely spot a(n):
A. inferential statistic
B. variable standard deviation
C. positive correlation
D. negative correlation

ANS: D DIF: Moderate
REF: 2.4 Correlations Describe the Relationships between Variables
TOP: XVIII.B MSC: Understanding

156. If a researcher wants to make a judgment as to whether the data from her sample would be like data in the population, she would use:
A. correlation coefficients
B. measures of central tendency
C. inferential statistics
D. meta-analysis

ANS: C DIF: Easy REF: 2.4 Inferential Statistics Permit Generalizations
TOP: XIX.A MSC: Remembering

157. If the difference between two groups is statistically significant, it suggests that:
A. there is a positive correlation among the data
B. the data show low levels of systematic error
C. the researcher has to use descriptive statistics to test for the validity of the results
D. if the experiment were repeated, the same results would likely occur

ANS: D DIF: Difficult REF: 2.4 Inferential Statistics Permit Generalizations
TOP: XIX.A MSC: Applying

158. This type of study can be described as a “study of studies”:
A. correlational study
B. case studies
C. experiment
D. meta-analysis

ANS: D DIF: Easy REF: 2.4 Inferential Statistics Permit Generalizations
TOP: XIX.B MSC: Remembering

159. Miranda is statistically combining the results of all the published studies on the effects of the presence of a weapon on eyewitness accuracy. Miranda is performing a(n):
A. meta-analysis
B. replication
C. inferential analysis
D. significance test

ANS: A DIF: Moderate REF: 2.4 Inferential Statistics Permit Generalizations
TOP: XIX.B MSC: Understanding

160. Jamal is performing statistical analyses to determine whether the effects of the treatment in his experiment might actually have reflected chance; Kendra is performing an analysis to combine the results of a number of experiments to yield an overall conclusion. Jamal is performing a _____, Kendra, a _____.
A. replication; meta-analysis
B. significance test; replication
C. significance test; meta-analysis
D. meta-analysis; significance test

ANS: C DIF: Moderate REF: 2.4 Inferential Statistics Permit Generalizations
TOP: XIX.B MSC: Understanding