

Practice Test 1. Research Methods and Goals of Psychology

Choose the best/correct answer depending on the nature of questions

1. Suppose a study finds only a weak correlation between IQ and the ability to solve word problems in math, with higher-IQ individuals tending to solve such problems more capably. Of the following, the correlation coefficient in this study would most likely be____
 - A. -0.98
 - B. -0.56
 - C. 0.00
 - D. $+0.17$
2. In the above case, the psychologist's discovery of weak relationship helps to attain _____ goal of Psychology.
 - A. Describing
 - B. Controlling
 - C. Explaining
 - D. Predicting
3. A professor wants to investigate the behavior of shoppers in a clothing store, so with permission he sets up a hidden video camera to record the behavior of the shoppers. This is an example of what type of research?
 - A. Experiment
 - B. Naturalistic observation
 - C. Case study
 - D. Survey
4. In an experimental study on how sleep deprivation could affect a person's mental alertness, mental alertness is the
 - A. Dependent variable
 - B. Independent variable
 - C. Experimental condition
 - D. Control condition
5. In the above experimental case, the sleep deprivation is the:
 - A. Dependent variable
 - B. Independent variable
 - C. Experimental condition
 - D. Control condition

6. Which is a limitation of survey methods for psychological research?
- A. Reliance on self-report data
 - B. Access to large samples
 - C. Information about non-observable behaviors
 - D. Relatively low-cost
7. Researchers like to do experiments whenever feasible because experiments:
- A. Impress the public that psychology is really scientific
 - B. Identify causal relationships
 - C. Permit the application of statistical analysis to the data
 - D. Are required in order for the study to get government funding
8. An individual with an exceptional memory is identified. She is capable of recalling major events, the weather, and what she did on any given date. Which research method will be appropriate to have a thorough understanding of such exceptional ability?
- A. Naturalistic observation
 - B. Survey
 - C. Case study
 - D. Correlational method
9. A Psychologist studies wedding photos from the early 1990s in an effort to understand wedding customs of that era. This research is _____ study.
- A. Case
 - B. Archival
 - C. Naturalistic observation
 - D. Survey
10. Which of the following questions was probably researched using the survey approach?
- A. How did Judy's parents affect her eating habits?
 - B. What is the effect of tranquilizers on the unborn child?
 - C. What do 7th graders think of their teachers?
 - D. What goes on in the brain while an individual experiences anger?