

Definitions Practice

Table of contents

Assignment Description	1
Instructions	1
My Variables and Definitions	1

Assignment Description

The purpose of this assignment is to practice differentiating between **conceptual** and **operational** definitions. A **conceptual definition** explains what a concept *means* in abstract or theoretical terms (think “dictionary definition”). An **operational definition** specifies exactly how a concept will be *measured* or manipulated in a particular study.

Instructions

1. Identify **four variables** that could be used in a research project you are interested in.
 2. For each variable, write a clear **conceptual definition**.
 3. For each variable, write a specific **operational definition**. Remember, this definition must be measurable.
 4. Complete the table below. An example has been provided in italics to guide you.
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My Variables and Definitions

Variable Name	Conceptual Definition	Operational Definition
<i>Stress</i>	<i>The psychological and physiological state of strain or tension resulting from adverse or demanding circumstances.</i>	<i>A participant's score on the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10), a 10-item questionnaire where higher scores indicate greater perceived stress.</i>
Likes	A positive action provided by a user, normally implying agreement or support.	Likes will be measured on a scale of 1-10 based on how many responses it garners. A high score on the scale will indicate that other users liked the comment, eluding to agreeing with the proposed opinion or response.
Shares	A share is an action that enables a post to be viewed on one's profile or from a profile, but was created by a separate user from the sender.	Shares will be measured overall. However a post is shared counts as a measurement. The number of shares seen on a post will represent whether or not users found the post informative, or worth telling others about.
Comments	The way that users can interact with one another by providing reactions or statements in response to a post.	Comments will be measured on a scale of 1-10 based on how many responses it garners. A high score on the scale will indicate that other users responded to the initial comment.
Screen Time	The amount of minutes spent using a device such as a computer, television, or games console, in this case it particularly pertains to apps.	A number that indicates how long a participant engages with a certain app.