

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Student ID #: _____

PSC 041

Research Methods in Psychology

WQ 2024

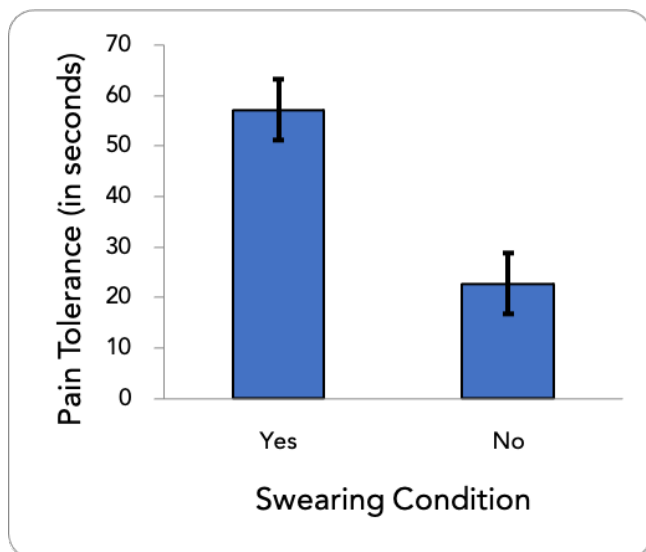
Unit 4 Exam Version B

Research Summary

Please answer the following questions in the space provided. Only write on the lines.

Adapted from: Stephens, R., Atkins, J., & Kingston, A. (2009). Swearing as a response to pain. *Neuroreport*, 20, 1056-60.

Oh \$*%# that hurts! Do you swear when you stub your toe? Turns out this bad language could be good for you! Psychologists have found empirical evidence that swearing may increase pain tolerance. Sixty-seven undergraduate participants came into the laboratory and were asked to immerse their hand into a bucket of icy water. Researchers explained the whole task and told the participants they could pull their hand out of the water at any time. Icy water is painful but won't cause any actual damage in a few minutes. The researchers randomly assigned half of the participants to read a list of swear words while their hand was in the water and instructed the other half to recite the alphabet from memory. They measured how many seconds each participant kept his, her, or their hand in the icy water. Researchers compared the results from people who cursed to people who did not curse. The participants who recited curse words kept their hand in the icy water longer ($M = 57.2$, $SD = 1.31$) than those who recited the alphabet ($M = 22.8$, $SD = 1.23$). Researchers concluded that reading curse words significantly increased pain tolerance, $t(66) = 2.218$, $p = 0.03$.



Predictor Variable

Thinking about the Predictor / Independent Variable: Swearing Condition

Partial operational definition: Participants were instructed to swear or to recite the alphabet

3 pts 1. The Predictor / Independent Variable is (fill in the box)
☐ **Categorical** ☐ **Continuous**

3 pts 2. How was the Predictor / Independent Variable measured? (fill in the box)
☐ **Observation** ☐ **Physiological**
☐ **Self-Report** ☐ **It was manipulated**

5 pts 3. Is this a causal or associative claim? (fill in the box)
☐ **Associative** ☐ **Causal**

5 pts 4. This variable is (fill in the box)
☐ **between groups** ☐ **within group**

Use this information only for the next two questions:

Another researcher wants to extend this finding using a different approach to address the same research question. This researcher instructs all of the participants to say whatever they want while their hand is in the water. The researcher codes whether the participants said swear words or not.

3 pts 5. How was this new Predictor / Independent Variable measured? (fill in the box)
☐ **Observation** ☐ **Physiological**
☐ **Self-Report** ☐ **It was manipulated**

5 pts 6. Is this new claim a causal or associative claim? (fill in the box)
☐ **Associative** ☐ **Causal**

Outcome Variable

Thinking about the outcome / dependent variable: Pain tolerance

- 10 pts 7. How did the researchers **operationally define** the outcome / dependent variable? Describe it using your own words. *Be sure to include the levels or values and indicate how the codes will be interpreted..*

- 3 pts 8. The outcome / dependent variable is (fill in the box)

☐ **Categorical**

☐ **Continuous**

- 3 pts 9. How was the outcome / dependent variable measured? (fill in the box)

☐ **Observation**

☐ **Physiological**

☐ **Self-Report**

☐ **It was manipulated**

- 10 pts 10. Evaluate the **construct validity** of the outcome / dependent variable.
ProTips: Give an overall evaluation. Think about the face validity, the procedure, and the method-match to inform your decision. Use specific vocabulary. Be sure to only discuss this one variable.

Evaluate Internal Validity and Research Design

10 pts 11. For this research summary, there is **not a maturation effect** because...

10 pts 12. For this research summary, "reading" **is a confound** because...

Sampling

5 pts 13. This is a _____ sample of human beings.

☐ **probability**

☐ **non-probability**

Summarize the findings

5 pts 14. How did the researchers summarize the findings? (fill in the box)

- ☐ **indicate strength and direction of the overall relationship**
- ☐ **compare group frequency**
- ☐ **compare group means**

5 pts 15. The error bars _____ overlap. Therefore, there likely ____ a real relationship between the variables? (fill in the box)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> do; is | <input type="checkbox"/> do not; is |
| <input type="checkbox"/> do; is not | <input type="checkbox"/> do not; is not |

5 pts 16. The p value is _____. Therefore, there ____ a statistically significant relationship between the variables? (fill in the box)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> greater than 0.05; is | <input type="checkbox"/> greater than 0.5; is |
| <input type="checkbox"/> greater than 0.05; is not | <input type="checkbox"/> greater than 0.5; is not |
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than 0.05; is | <input type="checkbox"/> less than 0.5; is |
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than 0.05; is not | <input type="checkbox"/> less than 0.5; is not |

Evaluate External Validity

10 pts 17. For this research, evaluate one aspect of **external validity**. You may include evidence for either a strength or a weakness. (e.g., is this authentic? does this generalize to other situations? does this generalize to other individuals?)

Use this information just for the following three questions:

Another researcher attempted to replicate this study in a different culture. They carefully replicated every step of the procedure. They did not find the same results. Participants in this new study demonstrated the same amount of pain tolerance regardless of what they were asked to say. In this different culture, tolerating pain is highly socially valued.

5 pts

18. This is a failure to

- ☐ **generalize**
- ☐ **replicate**

5 pts

19. This new finding brings into doubt the

- ☐ **internal validity**
- ☐ **external validity**

5 pts

20. This new finding ...

- ☐ **can be explained in a way that coexists with the original finding.**
- ☐ **indicates that one of the findings is likely to be invalid.**

Multiple Choice. Select the single best answer. Indicate your choice by filling in the box to the left of your selection. Do not put stray marks in the other boxes. If you need to change your answer and are unable to erase fully, clearly indicate your final choice (e.g., draw an arrow or circle it). 2.5 points each.

21. Random assignment impacts ____ validity. Random sampling impacts ____ validity

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> internal; external | <input type="checkbox"/> external; internal | <input type="checkbox"/> construct; internal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> internal; construct | <input type="checkbox"/> external; construct | <input type="checkbox"/> construct; external |

22. A researcher is using deception to ensure that participants respond naturally to a stimuli. They are concerned that a participant may share critical information about a study's purpose learned during a debriefing with other potential participants, and that this disclosure could bias their responding. To avoid this potential bias, could the researcher decide not to include a debriefing?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

23. To examine interactions in a public park, a researcher observes people as they spend time at parks in a local town. Should this researcher obtain informed consent?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Five principles of ethical research that are followed by the APA are respect for persons, beneficence, responsibility, integrity and justice.

24. Which of the following is included in the definition of beneficence?

- ☐ Participating in research is voluntary and participants can quit at any time
- ☐ Participants have an opportunity to understand the research and make an informed decision about participating
- ☐ Individual performance in a research study is kept confidential
- ☐ Any risk from the research to participants should be minimized
- ☐ The benefits of the research should apply broadly and not only to a particular group
- ☐ Psychologists build trust and conduct their business professionally
- ☐ Research is conducted accurately and reported honestly

25. Which of the following is included in the definition of justice?

- ☐ Participating in research is voluntary and participants can quit at any time
- ☐ Participants have an opportunity to understand the research and make an informed decision about participating
- ☐ Individual performance in a research study is kept confidential
- ☐ Any risk from the research to participants should be minimized
- ☐ The benefits of the research should apply broadly and not only to a particular group
- ☐ Psychologists build trust and conduct their business professionally
- ☐ Research is conducted accurately and reported honestly

26. Spending on Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid make up the largest portion of the U.S. federal budget.

This statement is ____ and therefore ____ belong in a scientific report

- ☐ opinion, could
- ☐ opinion, could not
- ☐ factual, could
- ☐ factual, could not

27. Which of the following behaviors is/are (an) example(s) of plagiarism?

- ☐ Including a sentence that is copied without using quotation marks and a reference citation
- ☐ Representing another's work as your own
- ☐ Including a sentence that is copied and substituting a few words with their synonyms without citing the source
- ☐ All of these

28. If the outcome variable is measured ____ then we summarize it by calculating mean and standard deviation.

- ☐ categorically
- ☐ continuously
- ☐ by observation
- ☐ by survey

29. In which section of a research article would a reader find a description of what was done in the past and why the present study is being conducted?

- ☐ Introduction
- ☐ Method
- ☐ Results
- ☐ Discussion

30. Population: Enrolled undergraduate students at UC Davis.

Sample: Obtain a list of all enrolled undergraduate students at UC Davis. Print each name on a piece of paper. Put all the papers into a very large box. Shake the box and select 100 names.

This sampling technique is best described as:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cluster | <input type="checkbox"/> Systematic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convenience | <input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Random |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowball | <input type="checkbox"/> Simple Random |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quota | <input type="checkbox"/> Judgmental |

31. Which one of the following statements would be appropriate for the results section of a research report?

- ☐ Past research shows men generally talk more than women
- ☐ For men, the average time talking was 10.7 minutes while for women the average was 7.4 minutes
- ☐ While the three men and three women discussed the issue, the experimenter measured time spent talking by starting and stopping stopwatches
- ☐ Contrary to popular belief, in groups of mixed gender, men talk more than women, interrupt more than women, and are more likely to direct discussion topics

32. Which one of the following statements would be appropriate for the methods section of a research report?

- ☐ Past research shows men generally talk more than women
- ☐ For men, the average time talking was 10.7 minutes while for women the average was 7.4 minutes
- ☐ While the three men and three women discussed the issue, the experimenter measured time spent talking by starting and stopping stopwatches
- ☐ Contrary to popular belief, in groups of mixed gender, men talk more than women, interrupt more than women, and are more likely to direct discussion topics

33. Which of the following is true of probability sampling but not for non-probability sampling?

- ☐ Every member of the population has the same likelihood of being chosen for the sample
- ☐ Weaker external validity
- ☐ The sample may not be similar to the population

34. Only value claims require strong ___ validity but ___ claims require strong construct validity

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internal, all | <input type="checkbox"/> External, all | <input type="checkbox"/> Construct, all |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internal, value | <input type="checkbox"/> External, value | <input type="checkbox"/> Construct, value |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internal, associative | <input type="checkbox"/> External, associative | <input type="checkbox"/> Construct, associative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internal, causal | <input type="checkbox"/> External, causal | <input type="checkbox"/> Construct, causal |