Lab Report 1

For your first lab report, you will examine the following research question, just as we practiced, but on a new variable. You do not have to turn in the work below, but you will turn in a 2-5 page lab report with all the necessary sections (short intro, Method, Participants, Procedure, Results, Discussion). You can refer to the Lab Reports General Instructions for more information on each section.

**Research Question/ intro:**

**Research has shown that people are affected by information that they receive prior to making decisions.** **This is especially true when individuals are making numerical estimates, a process known as the anchoring effect. Is there evidence for an anchoring effect among students asked to estimate various facts about Purchase College? We predict that students will produce larger estimates after exposure to large anchors compared to small anchors when estimating the size of the student population and the number of student clubs.**

This report must include the sections described earlier and be written in APA style. Refer to the General Lab Report Instructions for additional guidelines.

To help you work through it, here are the same steps we used for our lab question:

1. Open our study files to see what participants experienced.

The first thing we need to do is report the methods of our study. The purpose of this section is to clearly describe all the important steps of the study. It starts with a section describing the who, what, when, where, and why of your *sample.*

In order to provide this information, we need to 1) know how the study was conducted to describe things like where/when/why participants participated, and 2) analyze our demographic data to report more information about *who* the participants were and *how many* there were.

1. Open our Anchoring Study DATA so you can look at your descriptive statistics in JASP.
2. Let’s write up the participants section of our study together:

**Method**

***Participants***

**\* This participants section would be the same for this particular dataset regardless of which variables we are analyzing.**

1. Now we need to move onto the next section, which is our *procedure.* This section needs to clearly describe how the study was run. If another researcher wanted to run this same study, they should have enough information to understand what to do and how to do it. So we are providing information about what the participants completed or experienced, as well as making clear the temporal order of that.
2. For our procedure section, we are only going to write in detail about the variables related to our current research question. \*For your lab report, you will be discussing a different research question than the others we analyzed together in lab.\*

We have two hypotheses (in essence, so make sure you describe the following variables in detail in terms of what participants did/answered)

The variables of interest in the dataset are called: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. So go back to the study file and try to understand what participants completed or experienced. It is also important to make clear the design of the study (within-subjects or between-subjects) by indicating whether *all* participants completed/saw things or whether *some* participants completed/saw certain things (and if so, which/how many: for example, half saw x).

7. Write your procedure below.

***Procedure***

8. Think about the following and run your analysis.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **This is especially true when individuals are making numerical estimates, a process known as the anchoring effect. Is there evidence for an anchoring effect among students asked to estimate various facts about Purchase College? We predict that students will produce larger estimates after exposure to large anchors compared to small anchors when estimating the size of the student population and the number of student clubs.** | | |
|  | a. State the Null and Alternative Hypotheses: | | |
|  | *H0*: |  | |
|  | *HA*: |  | |
|  | b. What variable/s are you including in your analysis? | | |
|  | Variable/s: |  | |
|  | c. Is the hypothesis:  ☐ non-directional ☐ directional | | |
|  | d. What test should you use? (be specific!) | |  |
|  | e. Which of the following did you select when running your analysis?  **☐** ≠ **☐** > **☐**  < | | |
|  | f. Please copy the information from your output: | | |

**Results**

9. Report the results of each of your analyses:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | g. Report your results below in APA style sentences. | |
|  | A independent samples t test was run to determine… Results indicated that estimates in the larger anchor condition (M=, SD) were not significantly different from those in the small anchor conditions (M=, SD=) t(df) = t, *p*=, *d*= | |
|  | h. What is your decision regarding *H0* for the student population estimate? | Reject the null hypothesis  Fail to reject the null hypothesis |
|  | i. What is your decision regarding *H0* for the student clubs estimate? | Reject the null hypothesis  Fail to reject the null hypothesis |

**Discussion**

10. Write what your conclusion would be for your Discussion section (whether there was or was not evidence to support the anchoring effect in students’ estimates of the size of the student population and in the amount of clubs on campus.

What would you conclude about the evidence for an anchoring effect in general?

The main goal of the study was to determine… Results indicated…

**\*\*Write up and Submit your Lab Report**

**Your submitted lab report is the write-up of the following sections. You DO NOT need to include all the intermediary work that you have just done within all these tables. Those steps were to help walk you through everything.**

The report should be typed up, double-spaced, using Times New Roman, size 12 font. The headings should be bolded and either centered or left-justified exactly as shown below. Do not place extra spaces before/after headings. The final report will fit on 1-2 pages.

**Intro**

**Method**

**Participants**

**Procedure**

**Results**

**Discussion**