

Name _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 1) To be considered true research, a project must: 1) _____
- A) gather and interpret information in a systematic fashion so as to increase understanding of some phenomenon.
 - B) produce definitive conclusions regarding the subject of study.
 - C) uncover obscure or esoteric information and bring it to the consideration of the broader research community.
 - D) gather together a body of existing information and communicate it in a clear and concise way.
- 2) Which of the following examples illustrates research as it is described in your textbook? 2) _____
- A) Leonard is starting a woodworking business and is not sure how to calculate the cost of his labor so he can be both profitable and fair to the customers. He asks several established business owners how they calculate labor charges.
 - B) Ian wants to know why the population of songbirds has declined in recent years in the Sutton Wilderness Area. He carefully collects soil and water samples, systematically surveys the entire area for predators, and then sits down to make sense of his findings.
 - C) Bill is doing a report on the sonnets of Shakespeare. He carefully reads a number of sonnets and then carefully reads scholarly reviews of those same sonnets written by various Shakespeare scholars. He synthesizes all of this information in his report.
 - D) Sally is writing a paper about the effects of the Harry Potter books on the reading habits of fourth graders in the United States and United Kingdom. She goes to a research library to find information to include in her paper.
- 3) Research is considered *cyclical* because: 3) _____
- A) questions lead to data collection which leads to interpretations and then to new problems.
 - B) the researcher articulates the goals of the project and then collects data to solve a particular problem.
 - C) it has a number of steps that should be followed in order.
 - D) it is based on solving problems and subproblems in a systematic, unbiased way.
- 4) Cameron is conducting a study that addresses the differences in achievement scores between schools that use block scheduling and schools that use a traditional scheduling format. He has accessed average achievement scores for 1200 schools and now is comparing the two groups. In which research step is Cameron engaged? 4) _____
- A) Develop a specific plan to address the problem
 - B) Interpret the meaning of the data
 - C) Analyze the collected data
 - D) Recognize and identify a problem
- 5) Which of the following is most likely a statement made by a qualitative researcher? 5) _____
- A) I would like to give participants a test to determine their skill level.
 - B) I would like to use teacher ratings to see if the program worked.
 - C) I would like to control which students get the training so we can compare groups of children that did and did not get training.
 - D) I would like to interview a few of the participants to understand their training.

- 6) Which of the following is most likely a statement made by a quantitative researcher? 6) _____
- A) Let's follow the groups for the course of the project and take notes about their social interactions and dialogues.
 - B) Let's compare unit test scores of those who were placed in cooperative groups and those who were not.
 - C) Let's conduct some focus groups with college students about the types of cooperative learning they have encountered in their schooling.
 - D) Let's enroll in a course that uses cooperative groups and observe the nature of the instruction from a student perspective.
- 7) The philosophical assumption that objective scientific research can uncover true cause-and-effect relationships in the world is known as: 7) _____
- A) postpositivism.
 - B) realism.
 - C) experimentation.
 - D) positivism.
- 8) Qualitative researchers most commonly (but not exclusively) align with which of the following philosophical approaches to research? 8) _____
- A) constructivism
 - B) positivism
 - C) pragmatism
 - D) postpositivism
- 9) A specific mechanism or strategy the researcher uses to collect, manipulate, or interpret data is known as a: 9) _____
- A) research method.
 - B) theory.
 - C) statistical test.
 - D) research tool.
- 10) Research methodology refers to: 10) _____
- A) the specific theoretical basis of the research project.
 - B) the general approach the researcher takes to conducting a research project.
 - C) the statistical tests to be employed in a research project.
 - D) a specific device the researcher uses to collect data.
- 11) The primary purpose of inferential statistics is to: 11) _____
- A) help the researcher draw conclusions from the data.
 - B) turn qualitative data into meaningful numbers that can be interpreted.
 - C) measure social and psychological phenomena in an unbiased way.
 - D) organize and summarize the data.
- 12) Kade has spent the past month carefully observing a group of third graders on the playground during recess, taking note of how the students interact with one another. On the basis of these observations, Kade is drawing conclusions about the interaction styles of boys and girls. This is an example of: 12) _____
- A) theory building.
 - B) inductive reasoning.
 - C) deductive reasoning.
 - D) the scientific method.
- 13) Kimberly knows that teenagers often do not make good decisions in areas where they have little knowledge. She also knows that most teens have little knowledge about human sexuality. Therefore, Kimberly believes that teens are likely to make poor decisions about sexual activity. This is an example of: 13) _____
- A) deductive logic.
 - B) problem solving.
 - C) inductive reasoning.
 - D) theory building.

- 14) Having completed a series of studies for her dissertation, Marianela sits down to brainstorm about possible explanations for her key findings. She can see a variety of ways in which all data work together, and she prepares to write a final chapter in which she presents those ideas. We would most likely say Marianela is engaged in the process of:
A) constructivism. B) science.
C) theory building. D) deductive reasoning.

15) The primary reason to seek research articles published in academic journals, rather than those posted by the author on the Internet, is that:
A) they are more likely to follow the scientific method.
B) they have been carefully selected after an extensive review by experts.
C) they tend to focus on the most important topics in the field.
D) they are more objective and show fewer pitfalls in human reasoning.

16) Researchers who ascribe to the belief that there are multiple realities to be discovered are known as:
A) Post-Positivists. B) Pragmatists.
C) Constructivists. D) Positivists.

17) A good researcher always begins with a(n):
A) interesting topic. B) theory.
C) hypothesis. D) problem or unanswered question.

18) This type of research generally focuses on amounts or quantities, typically in numeric form.
A) Qualitative research B) Mixed-Methods research
C) Action research D) Quantitative research

19) A specific mechanism or strategy the researcher uses to collect, manipulate, or interpret data is known as a(n):
A) research tool. B) research hypothesis.
C) research resource. D) research methodology.

20) Which of the following is true regarding the nature of descriptive and inferential statistics?
A) Inferential statistics help us to describe the characteristics of data while descriptive statistics help us to make decisions about data.
B) Descriptive statistics help us to describe the characteristics of data while inferential statistics help us to make decisions about data.
C) Descriptive statistics help us to determine causation from correlation.
D) Inferential statistics help us to describe the shape of a set of data.

ESSAY. Write your answer in the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper.

- 21) Describe an example of the word *research* being used inappropriately. Be clear about how your example deviates from the definition of research offered in the chapter.

22) Graduate professors like to insist that the completion of thesis or dissertation research is not merely an "academic exercise" or final hurdle to obtaining the desired degree. Explain at least one personal benefit that the individual derives from completing a high-quality thesis or dissertation. Then explain at least one societal benefit that follows from the individual's completion of a high-quality thesis or dissertation.

- 23) Do recent technological advances (e.g., the World Wide Web, electronic databases) assure that future research will be of higher quality, or of greater utility, than past research? Support your answer.

Answer Key

Testname: UNTITLED1

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) A
- 4) C
- 5) D
- 6) B
- 7) D
- 8) A
- 9) D
- 10) B
- 11) A
- 12) B
- 13) A
- 14) C
- 15) B
- 16) C
- 17) D
- 18) D
- 19) A
- 20) B

21) Student examples will likely include uses such as these:

- "Research paper," referring to a paper based on information found in a library
- "Do research on product X," which might include reading *Consumer Reports* or consulting relevant professionals or salespeople
- "Research the family history," which involves the collection of information related to family history

In none of these cases has the "researcher" produced new information through the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data.

22) Personal benefits include the opportunity to

- Gain expertise in a field of interest
- Gain expertise in technical writing
- Sharpen critical thinking skills
- Improve written communication skills
- Become familiar with others who share your professional interests

Societal benefits include

- Gaining new knowledge or insight into the research problem that was investigated
- An accumulation of knowledge that may promote the welfare and comfort of society
- Citizens who have well-developed critical thinking skills

23) No. Recent technological advances certainly make information access quicker and easier. They also provide much wider access to information than was formerly possible. However, information acquired using technological advances is not necessarily different, in terms of its quality or utility, from information acquired in more traditional ways. Likewise, research based on information acquired through technological advances will not differ, in quality or utility, from research based on information acquired in more traditional ways. The method of acquisition has little or no bearing on how that information is ultimately understood and put to use.

Yes. The widespread dissemination of information that is now possible will result in greater and more widespread understanding of existing knowledge. Greater understanding of information within individuals will allow researchers to focus their work even more tightly on studies that will truly advance the state of knowledge. More widespread understanding of information within professional communities allows a greater and more diverse number of people to become actively involved in research endeavors.