

6) To increase his sample size, Denzell asks parents of children in his study to nominate friends that might also like to be in the study. This sampling method is known as:

- A) a sampling frame.
- B) simple random sampling.
- C) probability sampling.
- D) snowball or chain sampling.

Answer: D

7) _____ is a way to obtain a research sample that is representative of the community.

- A) Stratified random sampling
- B) Convenience sampling
- C) Nonprobability sampling
- D) Recruitment sampling

Answer: A

8) A researcher is working with a special population of adolescents with a particular type of eating disorder. He reads that the average adolescent with this particular disorder is female, and from a family system with a particular set of demographics. As he recruits the 50 adolescents he needs for this study, he discontinues recruitment for adolescents with the above profile, and only takes on new participants that fit other profiles of adolescents with this disorder. Thus, his sample is roughly the same in terms of demographics as what one would see at the national level. This form of sampling is known as:

- A) convenience sampling.
- B) simple random sampling.
- C) quota sampling.
- D) special sampling.

Answer: C

9) A researcher is interested in studying mental development in children and adolescents. He obtains his children from area public schools, but obtains his adolescents from private schools. Which confound would be viewed as the biggest problem with this study?

- A) inducement confounds
- B) recruitment confounds
- C) experimenter bias
- D) chain sampling confounds

Answer: B

10) Julie posts an ad in the newspaper and quickly obtains a sample of 1st-time parents. Which of the following statements is most true regarding this volunteer or self-selected sample?

- A) This method is so biased that she will not be able to publish the results of the study.
- B) The participants will be better educated and more intelligent than parents that did not volunteer.
- C) The participants will be similar in terms of social class than people that do not volunteer.
- D) This method is known as stratified random sampling.

Answer: B

- 11) When designing a cross-sectional study with different age groups, a researcher is concerned that cohort differences may influence his study results. To ease his mind, he ensures that the oldest participants (age 80) are similar in intelligence, education, and social class to the younger participants. What is the researcher's primary concern?
- A) The older participants may not be representative of the same-aged people in the community.
 - B) He relied on a nonprobability or convenience sample.
 - C) It is very difficult to measure intelligence in older people.
 - D) He should not have relied on a chain sampling method.

Answer: A

- 12) In general, flyers or advertisements that are worded negatively, such as, "Parenting Stress Study", often draw participants that are:
- A) representative of the community.
 - B) more educated and intelligent than other parents in the community.
 - C) more likely to drop out of your study.
 - D) more stressed or pessimistic parents.

Answer: D

- 13) Which of the following statements is most true regarding offers of monetary payment in advertisements?
- A) It is not legal to offer financial payments for participant compensation.
 - B) The people who volunteer for research for no payment are more educated than people who volunteer when there is financial compensation.
 - C) People volunteer for studies more quickly if there is monetary compensation than if there is not.
 - D) People who volunteer for research, regardless of monetary compensation opportunities, are usually less educated than those that do not volunteer.

Answer: C

- 14) Which of the following statements about participant recruitment is not true?
- A) Large monetary payments can be used to recruit hard-to-sample participants, such as teen parents.
 - B) People are more likely to volunteer for research if they are informed of its benefits.
 - C) Language in advertisements should be kept neutral; overly pessimistic language is likely to attract participants that are pessimistic or anxious.
 - D) Large monetary payments are ethical to use if they are equivalent to the amount of time participants spend completing the study protocol.

Answer: A

- 15) What is the primary function of the Institutional Review Board (IRB)?
- A) To review the research of institutional staff to determine if it is scientifically sound.
 - B) To make suggestions to principal investigators on how to improve study methods and design.
 - C) To assist institutional staff in locating sources for grant support and grant writing.
 - D) To ensure the protection of human research participants in institutional research.

Answer: D

- 16) Which of the following statements regarding the Institutional Review Board is not true?
- A) The primary role of the IRB is to ensure researcher compliance with federal regulations regarding the protection of human research participants.
 - B) IRB oversight for institutional research is required at any institution that receives federal funding.
 - C) To protect the rights of researchers, the IRB membership is solely comprised of researchers.
 - D) There are government restrictions and regulations regarding IRB membership.

Answer: C

- 17) Which of the following is not a requirement of the informed consent process?
- A) An explanation of the risks and benefits of the study.
 - B) Full disclosure regarding the study purpose and hypotheses in the consent form.
 - C) The time commitment to complete the study procedures.
 - D) An explanation of how the participant's responses will be kept confidential.

Answer: B

- 18) Which of the following statements is not true regarding the informed consent process?
- A) The informed consent process is highly scrutinized by the Institutional Review Board.
 - B) One cannot "waive" the informed consent process and one must obtain written informed consent for all research.
 - C) It is not uncommon for researchers to outline the informed consent process both verbally and in written form to the participant.
 - D) Research participation must be of a voluntary nature.

Answer: B

- 19) Under what circumstances can a researcher ask for a waiver of the informed consent process?
- A) When working with children it's only important to secure the parent's permission. In such cases, minors are obligated to participate; thus, the researcher can waive their consent process.
 - B) Because prisoners have lost most rights, one can bypass the general rules for informed consent when working with such populations.
 - C) Research in which the experimenter does not come into direct contact with the participants, such as passively observing families in shopping malls on a Friday evening.
 - D) Research in which participants would not likely grant approval, such as in a mental health facility.

Answer: C

- 20) A teacher informs his students that he is conducting a research study to improve his teaching methods. He informs the students that he will pass out a teacher rating form during class time. Students are instructed not to put their names on the form and after completion of the task, he asks them to drop them in a box on the way out of class. After the last survey is dropped off, his teaching assistant takes the box, enters the data, and shreds the rating sheets. Although this teacher has addressed some important ethical guidelines, which of the following ethical issues remains most apparent or concerning?
- A) It is impossible to maintain confidentiality of the responses, the instructor could academically harm a student that provides a bad evaluation.
 - B) The researcher did not properly outline the benefits of the study.
 - C) The students were not provided compensation for their time, he should have offered extra credit.
 - D) The students may feel compelled to take part in the study because they are his student; thus, their participation may not be voluntary.

Answer: D

- 21) Which of the following statements is not true regarding research ethics?
- A) If there are serious risks present in the study, the investigator must outline them to the participant.
 - B) If a study involves risk, the researcher cannot conduct the study at any institution with an Institutional Review Board.
 - C) If other people have used the same methods as you, and participants have not been harmed, then such information should be provided to the Institutional Review Board as they consider proposal approval.
 - D) A risky study is more likely to be approved if there are important and clear benefits.

Answer: B

- 22) When conducting a study that involves risk, which of the following issues would appear to be the most important in terms of protecting the welfare of the participants?
- A) How well the research assistants are trained to recognize and respond to adverse reactions.
 - B) The likelihood of the research getting published in reputable journals.
 - C) The publication record of the principal investigator.
 - D) The amount of financial compensation.

Answer: A

- 23) Which of the following statements is not true regarding the debriefing process?
- A) Participants, in understandable terms, should be provided the primary purpose of the study.
 - B) In some cases, full disclosure of the purpose and intent of the study, may do more harm than good.
 - C) Any questions the participant should have about the study should be answered by the Institutional Review Board and not the researcher.
 - D) The researcher should make sure that the participant leaves the study context in the same emotional condition as they entered.

Answer: C

- 24) The _____ committee oversees and regulates research involving human research populations.
- A) Institutional Review Board
 - B) Federal Trade Commission
 - C) Protection of Human Rights and Welfare
 - D) Code of Federal Regulations

Answer: A

- 25) Paul videotapes a sample of marital couples involved in conflict negotiation. When using this procedure, Paul cannot guarantee the participants:
- A) confidentiality.
 - B) anonymity.
 - C) that they have the right to ask questions about the study after they have left the lab.
 - D) that their tapes will be stored in a safe place.

Answer: B

- 26) Trina videotapes marital couples engaged in a conflict task. Her plan is to present the data from this study at a national convention, and show videotapes of couple behavior to her audience. When is the best time to secure permission from the participants to show these videotapes for professional purposes?
- A) Before written consent is obtained.
 - B) During the debriefing process.
 - C) After the paper has been accepted for presentation at the conference.
 - D) None of the above, it is not ethical to present interview or videotaped data of research participants in educational or professional settings.

Answer: A

- 27) What is meant by the term "coercion"?
- A) This occurs when the researcher promises the participant they will get feedback for their performance, but then does not follow through with the promise.
 - B) This means that the participant will not be made aware of the central purpose of the study.
 - C) This means the subject may feel obligated to participate in the study or continue with study procedures.
 - D) This means that it is impossible to keep the participant's responses anonymous.

Answer: C

- 28) Which of the following statements is not true regarding child assent?
- A) Child assent refers to securing a signed consent form from the child.
 - B) A child may refuse assent, even if his or her parents have provided permission.
 - C) Assent refers to securing oral consent from the child.
 - D) In order to assess the child, the researchers must have child assent and parent permission.

Answer: A

- 29) Securing oral consent from a minor is known as:
- A) informed consent.
 - B) assent.
 - C) coercion.
 - D) a confidentiality clause.

Answer: B

- 30) What is meant by the term "confidentiality"?
- A) Although the researcher can technically tie a participant's identity to their responses, she keeps such responses private.
 - B) The researcher is blinded to the identity of the participant; thus, she cannot tie their responses to their identity.
 - C) The participants' responses will only be known to the investigator; thus, their responses will never be used as data.
 - D) It means the investigator does not have the right to re-contact the participant, regardless of the reason.

Answer: A

- 31) Which of the following statements is most true regarding research with minors?
- A) The researcher must secure written informed consent from both minors and parents.
 - B) The researcher can collect data from minors if they give their consent, even if parent permission is not secured.
 - C) The minor should be encouraged to provide assent if the parents have provided permission.
 - D) The researcher must secure assent from the minor and permission from the parent.

Answer: D

- 32) A researcher is interested in studying self-esteem, self-concept, and body image in a group of children under the age of 18. Which of the following concerns is most likely to be a reality?
- A) Due to their stage of development, the researcher should expect that the adolescents may be as, or more vulnerable to distress than the younger children.
 - B) Due to their stage of development, it is likely the youngest children in the study will be more distressed, and the adolescents least stressed.
 - C) The adolescents, in particular, will not be concerned with how their results will be kept confidential.
 - D) Because the study variables cannot be reliably assessed, the risks of this study outweigh its benefits.

Answer: A

- 33) Who is most likely to conceptualize a study and design it?
- A) project coordinator
 - B) research assistant
 - C) principal investigator
 - D) Institutional Review Board

Answer: C

- 34) Achieving uniformity and reliability in lab members and procedures across tasks is termed:
- A) protocol development.
 - B) reactivity.
 - C) standardization.
 - D) validity.

Answer: C

35) What is a study protocol?

- A) The script that researchers read to participants before securing informed consent.
- B) Language in the informed consent document.
- C) A method in which participants are randomly assigned to experimental conditions.
- D) A document that includes all elements of the study, ranging from recruitment methods, to the informed consent process, to instructions on how to run the study procedures.

Answer: D

36) What would not be an example of experimenter bias?

- A) Piloting procedures to see how participants react to the methods; observing their reactions can bias later data collection.
- B) Displaying disgust when a participant asks questions about the study procedures before informed consent is obtained.
- C) Making coding errors one day because of a bad hangover and lack of sleep.
- D) Training some research assistants one way, and another group another way.

Answer: A

37) Which of the following strategies is least likely to reduce subject reactivity?

- A) Compensating participants for their time commitment.
- B) Adorn the laboratory with materials that are appealing to a target population.
- C) Careful training of the research assistants.
- D) Providing a thorough informed consent process.

Answer: B

38) Why would one conduct a lab (IV)-field (DV) study?

- A) It maximizes control over both the independent and dependent variable.
- B) It minimizes subject reactivity.
- C) It allows the researcher insight to how well a manipulation influences behavior in the real world.
- D) Although external validity is significantly reduced, such a study has high internal validity.

Answer: C

39) Raul instructs parents to have children watch different types of programming over the course of the week. During the next week, he observes the behavior of these children as they interact with other peers in his lab. This particular study is known as the _____ study.

- A) lab/lab
- B) field/lab
- C) field/field
- D) lab/field

Answer: B

- 40) Which of the following statements about university laboratory schools for children is true?
- A) Because teaching is their mission, it is very difficult to gain access for research purposes.
 - B) Although it is frequently easy to gain access for research purposes, the researcher should ensure that the demographics of the school, or their sample, are representative of the population.
 - C) Because it is on university property, it is unlikely these children have been exposed to many research studies.
 - D) They are frequently more difficult to access than public schools located off-campus.

Answer: B

- 41) When constructing a study, Bill decides he wants to recruit children in area schools but is worried about getting access. Which of the following strategies is most likely to help Bill?
- A) Consider how his work has implications for bettering the quality of education for children in the schools.
 - B) Avoid trying to achieve support from parents whose children attend these schools, or teachers that work at them. Recruiting their support will look too political to the school administrators.
 - C) Set up meetings with the building principals and convince them they should appreciate the scientific merits of the research, even though it is unlikely to directly benefit the schools.
 - D) Avoid face-to-face meetings with the key administrators. These people should be directly mailed the study protocol and corresponded with only via e-mail.

Answer: A

- 42) Wanda is in a formal meeting with school administrators to discuss the possibility that she can collect data in the school. Which of the following issues would the administrators be least concerned with?
- A) Whether or not Wanda assesses problems or concerns that face children in this particular school.
 - B) The input of teachers and other staff members.
 - C) Procedures for securing assent from minors and parent permission.
 - D) Where the results will eventually be published.

Answer: D

- 43) A building principal tells Wanda that school bullying is a central problem in the school. To gain more insight to the problem, before collecting data, Wanda interviews a small group of teachers about the problem. What strategy is Wanda using?
- A) focus group
 - B) support group
 - C) quantitative method
 - D) active consent

Answer: A

44) A researcher mails permission letters to parents and stipulates that if the permission form is not returned, the parent has indirectly agreed to allow their child to partake in the study. This procedure is:

- A) passive parental consent.
- B) active parental consent.
- C) a violation of confidentiality.
- D) informed consent waiver.

Answer: A

45) Which of the following statements is true?

- A) Because passive parental consent places less burden on parents, its use is encouraged over active parental consent.
- B) If a school official waives a requirement regarding parental permission and the Institutional Review board does not, the researcher still cannot waive this requirement.
- C) Generally, research samples are made larger when using active over passive parental consent.
- D) In most cases, the parents of children who return parent consent or permission forms are no different demographically than those that do not.

Answer: B

46) Jamie is interested in assessing family interactions in highly naturalistic contexts without experimental manipulation. After polling her families, she discovers that almost all of the families have dinner together at least 3 times a week. Such a naturalistic observation of behavior in a common, real world context is termed a(n):

- A) experimental design.
- B) focus group.
- C) setting event.
- D) field-lab study.

Answer: C

47) Which of the following statements is most true regarding home-based research?

- A) External validity may be high, but internal validity can be compromised.
- B) Typically, internal validity is higher than in laboratory research.
- C) It is typically easier and quicker to obtain data in this context than in laboratory research.
- D) It's best to conduct home visits alone, bringing more than one person could be viewed as too invasive by the family.

Answer: A

48) Which of the following considerations is not true regarding Internet-based research?

- A) Most web users are teenagers.
- B) We have the potential to collect data from people across the country, as well as the world.
- C) The computer medium may promote perceptions of anonymity.
- D) The validity of data collected over the Internet are often similar to that collected in the lab.

Answer: A

- 49) A colleague informs you that the data you collected in an Internet-based experiment may not be internally valid. Which strategy would most likely alter this opinion?
- A) If you could demonstrate that the study participants were demographically similar to people in the community.
 - B) If you could demonstrate the same findings in a smaller, laboratory-based study.
 - C) If you could demonstrate that most people took the same amount of time completing the task over the Internet.
 - D) If you told your colleague that you offered heavy financial compensation for study participation.

Answer: B

- 50) Which statement is true regarding web-based research?
- A) The results of Internet-based research are often weaker than data collected in the laboratory.
 - B) Most Internet users are middle-aged, white females.
 - C) Most of the validity research concerning web-based research has been collected on college students.
 - D) It has been proven that financial compensation increases participation and decreases the chances of selective dropout.

Answer: C

Short Answer Questions

- 1) A researcher's scheme for defining a population of interest and identifying/recruiting people that fit this description is known as the _____.

Answer: sampling plan

- 2) Lora is interested in studying mental development in "retirees". This broad, theoretical population is termed the _____ population.

Answer: target

- 3) _____ populations are defined by geographic area of location, such as the community, state, or country.

Answer: Area

- 4) _____ populations are defined by subject factors other than geographic locations and might include people that experience low base rates of certain behaviors, such as truancy, or a condition, such as an eating disorder.

Answer: Special

5) A researcher has access to a large number of schools in the state. In all, he has almost 50,000 possible students that he could potentially recruit for this study. This large group of students that are potentially available for this study is known as the _____ population.

Answer: study

6) A researcher has 50,000 students at his disposal for a research project. Out of this population, he needs only 100 participants. This pool of participants is known as the _____ sample.

Answer: research or study

7) Out of a sample of 50,000 children, a researcher decides to randomly select every 10th child on the student enrollment rosters. This sampling method is known as _____ sampling.

Answer: probability or simple random

8) In _____ sampling, we recruit whomever we can best access.

Answer: nonprobability or convenience

9) Kathy works at a mental health center. In terms of sampling, she only recruits patients who seeks services at the center. This recruitment method is known as _____ sampling.

Answer: convenience or nonprobability

10) Because he is having a difficult time recruiting 5-year-olds, a researcher asks a parent to provide some names of families in the community that they know that have similar aged children. This type of sampling method is known as _____ sampling.

Answer: snowball or chain, or nonprobability

11) A researcher post flyers around the community to recruit families for his research. He desires a sample size of 100 and after 2 days, has already recruited 50 African-American families. Because 50% of the community population is African-American, he decides to discontinue recruitment for this group, but continue recruiting participants of other ethnic groups. This sampling method is known as _____ sampling.

Answer: quota

12) _____ methods operationally define the sampling design of the study.

Answer: Recruitment

13) Negative advertisements, such as "Fix your Marriage, NOW!", are more likely to encourage more _____ people to volunteer for the study.

Answer: pessimistic or anxious

14) A _____ confound is when participants are recruited from non-equal or equivalent settings, such as recruiting young adults from colleges and older people from nursing homes.

Answer: recruitment (or selection bias)

15) The _____ is an oversight committee that ensures that researchers adhere to the federal guidelines for the protection of human subjects.

Answer: Institutional Review Board (IRB)

16) An Institutional Review Board is mandated to ensure that researchers adhere to ethical guidelines published by the _____ government.

Answer: federal

17) For most adult research, participants are required to read and sign a(n) _____ document.

Answer: informed consent

18) When reviewing a research protocol, the 3 primary issues attended to by the Institutional Review Board are the informed consent process, confidentiality, and the _____ to the participant.

Answer: risks and benefits

19) _____ is a procedure in which the researcher explains the true purpose of the study and makes sure the participant was not adversely affected by the study procedures.

Answer: Debriefing

20) Because a researcher videotapes his participants in a task, he is aware of the identity of his participants. In such cases, it is important to keep the participant's data private and _____.

Answer: confidential

21) When evaluating a research protocol, the Institutional Review Board will examine how the researcher minimizes _____ and its relationship to the possible benefits of the study.

Answer: risk

22) A researcher insists that her participants do not put any identifying information on their questionnaires, such as names or social security numbers. In this way, the researcher is assuring the participants that their responses will be kept _____.

Answer: anonymous

23) _____ occurs when a participant is pressured into participating in a study.

Answer: Coercion

24) A researcher, in order to induce poor people to volunteer for a study, offers participants \$1,000 for a 30-minute study. This method raises obvious concerns about _____, and that the participants may feel pressured to volunteer for the study.

Answer: coercion

25) Many researchers, when working with minors, will provide an overview of the study procedures to the children. In order to be compliant with federal regulations, the researcher must next secure _____ from the child for their participation.

Answer: assent or verbal assent

26) In terms of federal guidelines, an example of a protected population, other than minors or children, would be _____.

Answer: mentally ill; prisoners; pregnant women; etc.

27) Beyond designing the study and writing the study protocol, the _____ is the person primarily responsible for ensuring the protection of human subjects.

Answer: principal investigator

28) The _____ is the staff member that oversees the research assistants, and ensures that the principal investigator's protocol is followed.

Answer: project director

29) Achieving uniformity or reliability in lab members across tasks is termed _____.

Answer: standardization

30) The research or study _____ provides clear instructions to research assistants regarding how to recruit participants, what to say to participants, and how to run all study procedures.

Answer: protocol

31) A researcher wants to assess how children react to interadult conflict. To do so, he trains his assistants to argue softly or loudly for exactly 2 minutes in front of the children. He is careful to ensure that the researchers, when arguing, all argue for the same length and at the correct intensity. Ensuring such reliability in the study methods is referred to as _____.

Answer: standardization

32) _____ by researchers occurs via unintentional verbal intonations or utterances, facial reactions, or experimenter posture.

Answer: Experimental bias

33) A researcher notes that one of her assistants sighs heavily whenever a participant gets a task wrong. This behavior is known as _____ bias.

Answer: experimenter

34) Subject _____ is a case where a participant reacts differently in a study because of the behavior of the experimenter or the experimental setting.

Answer: reactivity

35) Marla notes that her research assistant giggles whenever a subject makes a mistake on a task. The subjects seem to notice, and often give up quickly when presented the more difficult tasks. The experimenter's behavior could be considered a form of _____ bias, whereas the subject's unnatural behavior is known as _____ reactivity.

Answer: experimenter; subject

36) Manipulation of the independent variable in the lab, and measurement of the dependent variable in the field is known as the _____/_____ study.

Answer: lab/field

37) In the field/lab study, the researcher manipulates the _____ in the field and assesses the _____ in the lab.

Answer: independent variable; dependent variable

38) The advantage of the lab/lab study is that it is easier to achieve _____ validity than in the field/field study.

Answer: internal

39) The researcher may use a lab/field study to maximize experimental control over the independent variable, and ensure that its manipulation has a carry over effect into the real world. Such a carry over effect would attest to the _____ validity of the study.

Answer: external

40) After securing permission to use a public school as a research setting, the researcher meets with small groups of teachers to determine the presence of bullying in the school. These small discussion groups, which are used to gather qualitative data regarding the research problem, are also known as _____ groups.

Answer: focus

41) _____ parental consent or permission refers to a procedure in which a researcher supplies the parent with a full description of the study and requires a signed release in order to assess a child or minor.

Answer: Active

42) In order to secure permission to access a sample of young school children, Julie sends all of the parents letters that contain a full description of the study procedures. For this study, Julie will only use children whose parents have returned a signed consent or permission form. This strategy is also known as _____ parental consent or permission.

Answer: active

43) A researcher sends out a letter describing his study to the parents of school-aged children. In the letter, he informs the parents to notify him if they do not want their child participating in the study. Otherwise, if he does not hear from a parent, he assumes it's alright to assess the child. This procedure is known as _____ parental consent.

Answer: passive

44) When using a _____ parental permission or consent strategy, the researcher informs parents only to notify her if they do not want their child participating in the study.

Answer: passive

45) Although generally not approved by Institutional Review Boards, a _____ parental consent or permission strategy can dramatically increase one's sample size of children.

Answer: passive

46) A _____ refers to specific behaviors or patterns of social interactions that naturally occur within an environment.

Answer: setting event

47) Naturally occurring patterns of social interaction, such as family mealtime, are known as _____ events.

Answer: setting

48) When assessing naturally occurring patterns of social interaction, such as family mealtime conversations in one's home, the research may compromise _____ validity in favor of increasing _____ validity.

Answer: internal; external

49) When conducting Internet-based research, one should be sensitive to the fact that most Web users are _____ men.

Answer: middle-aged, high income

50) In an Internet-based study, a researcher requires the participants to supply their e-mail address. What ethical guideline is potentially violated when using this type of strategy?

Answer: confidentiality

Essay Questions

- 1) Design a study and create a sampling plan.

Answer: In the sampling plan, the researcher first provides an operational definition for the target population, such as "retirees", "early adolescents" or "family caregivers". Next, the researcher considers if the target population represents an area or special population; this is an important step because it influences the identification of our study population and recruiting strategies. Once the population has been represented, the researcher must identify the study population, which represents all possible subjects at the researcher's disposal. Because study populations may represent hundreds or thousands of people, the researcher must next consider how to recruit the research sample, or people that will be actually recruited to participate in the study.

- 2) Define and give examples of the target and study population, as well as a research sample.

Answer: The target population is a theoretical one and is operationally defined by the researcher. For example, a researcher interested in depressed adults might use a clinical definition using a diagnostic source book. Once the target population has been defined, the researcher must identify the study population, such as potentially all of the depressed adults currently being treated in area mental health facilities. Because there may be hundreds of people in a community with such a diagnosis, the researcher next must consider how to recruit the research sample, or the depressed adults that will actually participate in the study procedures.

- 3) Distinguish between probability and nonprobability sampling techniques. Provide examples for each. What is one problem with nonprobability sampling that might influence external validity?

Answer: In probability sampling, one obtains a sampling frame, or list of all people representing the study population, such as the names of all children attending public schools in a community. In order to draw a research sample, the investigator may recruit using a random method, such as sending parental permissions letters to every 5th child named on the list. In nonprobability sampling, we recruit whoever we can. For example, a researcher may post flyers throughout the community advertising the study. The chief risk is that the research sample may not be representative of the broader population, which influences confidence regarding external validity.

- 4) You want to conduct a study involving the use of technology by 20, 40, 60, and 80-year olds. However, a colleague tells you that your study will fail because your participants will naturally vary on important variables such as education. Your colleague adds that matching your participants on demographic variables will solve one problem, but create another. That is, your age groups are equated on these variables, but in doing so, you have compromised external validity. Describe how you would respond to your colleague's critique.

Answer: Because the participants in the age groups may be very different in terms of key variables, such as education and health, one should incorporate certain controls. For example, the participants could be matched on verbal intelligence and health. To determine if this control has influenced external validity, one could contrast the verbal intellect and health of the participants to the broader population in the community, or in the case of verbal intellect, contrast the scores of the participants within age groups to the national statistical average for people of a particular age group.

- 5) According to methodological experts, such as Rosenthal and Rosnow (1975; 1991), what are some recruitment strategies that researchers can use to increase participation and better ensure a representative sample while maintaining ethical integrity?

Answer: A variety of strategies could address this question. When recruiting subjects using advertisements, the information in the ad should communicate the general purpose of the study, the importance of the research, and language should be crafted in neutral terms. For example, "Parenting Study" is a better ad title than "Parenting Stress Study". When communicating to potential participants directly, one should stress the practical and applied significance of the work. The researcher should consider ways to minimize risk and ensure that compensation is equivalent to the amount of work required of the participant.

- 6) When evaluating research protocols regarding ethical issues, the Institutional Review Board often heavily scrutinizes the informed consent process. Describe at least 5 issues that are attended to by the IRB regarding this process.

Answer: According to the code of federal regulations, researchers are required to describe the general purpose of the study and nature of time commitment. The investigator must stress that participation is voluntary and one can withdraw from the study procedures at any time without penalty. The researcher must outline the risks and benefits of the study, and in the cases of intervention studies, discuss other treatments that might be available. The investigator must describe how confidentiality of data will be maintained, as well as compensation for participation. Participants should be allowed to ask questions about the research, and supplied the names of a contact person, should injury or an adverse reaction occur.

- 7) You are conducting a study in which your research assistants will stage arguments in front of the research participants. Describe how you would achieve standardization regarding the tasks and your research assistants.

Answer: Standardization refers to uniformity in lab members across tasks; thus, the research assistants need to be trained and adhere to a study protocol. The study protocol contains detailed information on how the assistants should behave, and may even include specific language that is memorized by all. In the case of this study, the researchers must be trained in the same way to stage the arguments, and during piloting, the lead researcher should make sure that they are all acting out the arguments in the same way. Thus, the content and duration of the arguments should be the same, as well as tone and intensity. Finally, the researchers should be instructed to gauge the intensity of their subjects' reactions, and trained to stop the procedures if a response reaches a certain threshold.

- 8) What does the term "lab-field" study refer to? Provide an example and discuss its relative advantages.

Answer: In the lab-field study, the researcher manipulates the independent variable in the lab, yet, measures its effect in the field. For example, the researcher may train children a learning strategy, and then see if their school performance improves. The advantage of this study is that the researcher can maintain control over levels of the independent variable, yet, measure whether or not the manipulations influence "real world" behavior. Thus, the study has reasonable internal and external validity.

- 9) You have secured a meeting with school board officials to study bullying behavior in area schools. What points would you cover in the meeting to best ensure possible access?

Answer: Beyond explaining the purpose, importance, and procedures of your study, it is important to ascertain the needs of the school. For example, these officials would be impressed if one of the objectives of your study had an impact on student learning and behavior. A tie-in with student achievement would always be a plus. You should also note that you would eventually like to discuss your study procedures with the teachers, because they may have a central role in data collection, and may have a special insight to the problem. You should also discuss your exit plan and how your results will be shared with school personnel.

- 10) What is the difference between active and passive parent consent?

Answer: When pursuing active consent, the researcher informs the parents regarding all aspects of the study and requires the parent to sign a release in order to assess the child. In passive consent, the researcher also describes all aspects of the study, but instructs parents to only notify her should they not want their child to participate in the study.

- 11) You are interested in assessing people's attitudes towards different cultural groups over the Internet. Describe some strategies you would use to increase the validity of this study.

Answer: Due to the nature of the research question, it would seem imperative to recruit people from different cultural groups. Because most Internet users are middle-aged males, it would be important to screen participants for major demographic variables, such as nationality, age, gender, and race. Once a particular quota of people have been evaluated, one could block access to the surveys to individuals representing less common demographics. To cross-validate the results, one could attempt to study the same research question in a lab or community study. If the results were similar, then the researcher could ascertain the Internet-based study was valid.