

CHAPTER 1

Why the Social Researcher Uses Statistics

Chapter 1: Multiple Choice Questions

1. A hypothesis is a(n):
- fundamental unit of scientific observation.
 - statement of the relationship between two or more variables.
 - scientific fact of truth.
 - observable and measurable variable.

Answer: b. statement of the relationship between two or more variables.
Objective: Factual
Page number: 2
Level: Basic

2. In a hypothesis, the presumed cause is called the:
- dependent variable.
 - independent variable
 - aggregate.
 - constant.

Answer: b. independent variable.
Objective: Factual
Page number: 2
Level: Basic

3. In a hypothesis, the presumed effect is called the:
- dependent variable.
 - independent variable.
 - aggregate.
 - constant.

Answer: a. dependent variable.
Objective: Factual
Page number: 2
Level: Basic

Instructions: Questions 4-7 refer to the following situation:

A social work student is interested in studying the relationship between an adult's age and their view on off-shore drilling. The student plans to compare adults who consider themselves Extremely anti-drilling, Anti-drilling, Neutral, Pro-drilling, and Extremely pro-drilling.

4. The dependent variable is:
- age.
 - view on off-shore drilling.

- c. state in which the person lives.
- d. none of the above

Answer: b. view on off-shore drilling.
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 2
Level: Basic

5. What level of measurement is 'view on off-shore drilling' for this research question?
- a. Nominal
 - b. Ordinal
 - c. Interval/ratio
 - d. None of the above

Answer: b. Ordinal
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 12-14
Level: Basic

6. The researcher chose to measure age as a number between 18 and 110. What level of measurement is age for this research question?
- a. Nominal
 - b. Ordinal
 - c. Interval/ratio
 - d. None of the above

Answer: c. Interval/ratio
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 12-14
Level: Basic

7. The independent variable is:
- a. age
 - b. view on off-shore drilling
 - c. state in which the person lives
 - d. none of the above

Answer: a. age
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 2
Level: Basic

8. The stages of research do NOT always include:
- a. data collection.
 - b. data analysis.
 - c. algebra.
 - d. interpretation of results.

Answer: c. algebra
Objective: Factual
Page number: 11

Level: Basic

9. Social researchers can use measurement to:

- a. name or categorize data.
- b. rank order data.
- c. assign a score.
- d. all of the above

Answer: d. all of the above

Objective: Factual

Page number: 11

Level: Basic

10. Nominal measurement is used primarily to:

- a. name or categorize data.
- b. rank order data.
- c. both of the above
- d. none of the above

Answer: a. name or categorize data.

Objective: Factual

Page number: 12

Level: Basic

11. Ordinal measurement is used primarily to:

- a. assign a score.
- b. rank order data.
- c. both of the above
- d. none of the above

Answer: b. rank order data.

Objective: Factual

Page number: 13-14

Level: Basic

12. Interval/ratio measurement is used primarily to:

- a. name or categorize data.
- b. assign a score.
- c. both of the above
- d. none of the above

Answer: b. assign a score.

Objective: Factual

Page number: 13-15

Level: Basic

13. A social researcher is interested in studying the relationship between an abstinence-only program and teen pregnancy. To test her hypothesis, she compares the results of 50 teens participating in an abstinence-only program to 50 teens participating in a more conventional sex-education program. What type of research is this?

- a. Experiment
- b. Survey
- c. Content analysis
- d. Secondary analysis

Answer: a. Experiment
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 3-9
Level: Intermediate

14. A team of researchers is interested in determining how national political figures have been depicted historically on TV. The researchers painstakingly review the content of archival video footage to determine how objective and accurate the depictions are. What type of research is this?

- a. Experiment
- b. Survey
- c. Content analysis
- d. Secondary analysis

Answer: c. Content analysis
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 3-9
Level: Intermediate

15. The United States census occurs every 10 years and aims to have each American household answer a series of questions. What type of research is this?

- a. Experiment
- b. Survey
- c. Content analysis
- d. Secondary analysis

Answer: b. Survey
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 3-9
Level: Intermediate

16. A social researcher is interested in studying patients' sense of spirituality to see if it correlates with how well they respond to treatment. She only reviews archival data previously collected in a scientific manner. What type of research is this?

- a. Experiment
- b. Survey
- c. Content analysis
- d. Secondary analysis

Answer: d. Secondary analysis
Objective: Conceptual
Page number: 3-9
Level: Intermediate

17. Statistics may be used for: