

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) produce definitive conclusions regarding the subject of study.
B) gather together a body of existing information and communicate it in a clear and concise way.
C) gather and interpret information in a systematic fashion so as to increase understanding of some phenomenon.
D) uncover obscure or esoteric information and bring it to the consideration of the broader research community.
- 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) 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.
D) 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.
- 3) Which of the following is defined as an organized body of concepts and principles intended to explain a particular phenomenon? 3) _____
A) Theory B) Hypothesis C) Interpretation D) Inference
- 4) The purpose of formal research is to: 4) _____
A) support or fail to support the study hypotheses.
B) move beyond the need for hypotheses.
C) prove or disprove the study hypotheses.
D) identify alternative hypotheses.
- 5) Assumptions come into play: 5) _____
A) for nearly every research study.
B) when research is not well thought out.
C) rarely, if ever.
D) in qualitative research but not in quantitative research.
- 6) Well-designed research manages to minimize or avoid: 6) _____
A) assumptions. B) theory. C) predictions. D) bias.
- 7) Researchers _____ their phenomenon of interest on the basis of data analysis. 7) _____
A) make inferences about B) define
C) know facts about D) identify

- 8) A primary function of the methodology is to: 8) _____
A) guide and control the acquisition of data.
B) extract meaning from the data that have been gathered.
C) both A and B
D) neither A nor B
- 9) A well-designed and well-conducted study: 9) _____
A) raises questions of importance to the field.
B) answers some questions and raises other questions.
C) answers questions of importance in the field.
- 10) Reading the professional literature in the field of interest: 10) _____
A) will stifle creativity and constrain the individual to the status quo.
B) will enhance an individual's ability to design and conduct high-quality research.
C) is necessary only for the leaders in the field.
D) will make little difference to the quality and impact of the individual's work.
- 11) One indication that a piece of information is of high quality is that the information: 11) _____
A) is the firsthand account of a personal experience.
B) resulted from a project that received corporate funding.
C) is found in a juried (or refereed) research report.
D) is found on the Internet.
- 12) A _____ is a specific mechanism or strategy the researcher uses to collect, manipulate, or 12) _____
interpret data.
A) research tool B) research methodology
C) theory D) statistical test
- 13) Research methodology refers to: 13) _____
A) the general approach the researcher takes to conducting a research project.
B) the specific theoretical basis of the research project.
C) a specific device the researcher uses to collect data.
D) the statistical tests to be employed in a research project.
- 14) Sam wants to find high-quality research reports related to attribution theory that have been 14) _____
published in professional journals. Sam's best approach would be to:
A) browse the shelves in the library. B) consult the library catalog.
C) consult an online or electronic database. D) search the World Wide Web.
- 15) Sonya is a college freshman who has just been assigned her first research paper, and she doesn't 15) _____
know how to get started finding information. Sonya should:
A) browse the shelves in the library. B) consult an online or electronic database.
C) search the World Wide Web. D) consult a reference librarian.
- 16) _____ allows a researcher to receive news in an area of special interest and discuss that news 16) _____
with others.
A) A list server B) E-mail
C) A Web browser D) A search engine

- 17) _____ allows researchers to personally correspond practically instantly with other users around the world. 17) _____
A) A list server B) A Web browser
C) E-mail D) A search engine
- 18) John wants to begin using e-mail. Which of the following steps is NOT necessary for John to get started as an email user? 18) _____
A) Request an e-mail account
B) Learn how to access and use the e-mail provider's services
C) Learn to use a Web browser to explore the Internet
D) Obtain necessary software from the e-mail provider and load it onto a computer
- 19) Three of the following statements about measurement in the research setting are accurate. Which one is NOT accurate? 19) _____
A) Measurement is a tool that aids researchers in interpreting their observations.
B) The purpose of measurement is to systematically limit the data in a way that makes it quantifiable.
C) Measurement is applied by researchers only to insubstantial phenomena.
D) Systematic measurement assists researchers in obtaining objectivity in their researcher.
- 20) 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: 20) _____
A) deductive logic. B) inductive logic.
C) hypothetical logic. D) propositional logic.
- 21) 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: 21) _____
A) inductive logic. B) deductive logic.
C) transductive logic. D) propositional logic.

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

- 22) Your chapter states: "Research is, by its nature, cyclical or, more exactly, helical." Explain why "cyclical" is an appropriate description of the research process. Then explain why "helical" is a better description.
- 23) 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.
- 24) 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.
- 25) Near the end of Chapter 1 the authors of your textbook include a relatively lengthy section on writing the research report. Why is it important that research results are carefully written up and made available to the scientific community?

26) 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) C
- 2) B
- 3) A
- 4) B
- 5) A
- 6) D
- 7) A
- 8) C
- 9) B
- 10) B
- 11) C
- 12) B
- 13) A
- 14) B
- 15) D
- 16) A
- 17) C
- 18) C
- 19) C
- 20) B
- 21) B
- 22) Research is cyclical in that it starts with a question and, ultimately, closes the circle by interpreting the study findings in such a way that they shed light on that question. However, as the study answers one question it is likely to raise others, creating the beginning of the next cycle of question posing and data gathering. Moreover, at the end of a study you know more than you did when you started, so you do not return to the same state (as in closing a circle), but in fact you have a greater (if only slightly greater) understanding of your subject.
- 23) 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 historyIn none of these cases has the "researcher" produced new information through the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data.
- 24) 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 interestsSocietal 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
- 25) Typically research is not conducted merely to satisfy personal curiosity; it is conducted within a professional field with the goal of improving understanding of that field. If researchers do not communicate their findings to their field, it impedes this progression. Moreover, if researchers do not communicate their findings clearly and carefully, they may inadvertently introduce confusion or even false notions into the field.

Answer Key

Testname: UNTITLED1

26) 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.