Bachman, Fundamentals of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice 3rd Edition

1. The four major stages in the research circle are:

    a. Theory, hypothesis, data, and replication
    b. Deduction, induction, replication, and implementation
    c. Theory, validation, empiricism, and replication
    *d. Theory, hypothesis, data, and empirical generalization
    e. Question formulation, theory, hypothesis, and hypothesis testing

2. A researcher argues that individuals with low self-control are more likely to commit crimes than individuals with high self-control. The independent variable in this proposition can be stated most clearly as:

    a. Individuals with low self-control
    b. The types of crimes committed
    c. The number of crimes committed
    d. The type of individuals committing crimes
    *e. The intensity of self-control

3. According to deterrence theory, punishment for a deviant act reduces the likelihood that a person will repeat the act. A researcher decides that it must therefore be likely that tougher gun control laws would reduce gun crimes. This is an example of:

    a. Exploratory reasoning
    *b. Deductive reasoning
    c. Empirical generalization
    d. Inductive reasoning
    e. Illogical reasoning

4. An independent variable is to a dependent variable as a:

    a. Theory is to a hypothesis
    b. Disease is to a cure
    *c. Cause is to an effect
    d. Response is to a stimulus
    e. Treatment to a problem

5. A researcher measures the fear community residents experience due to crime and the presence of police officers in a sample of urban neighborhoods. Based on findings, the researcher reports that there is no relation between fear of crime and police presence. This statement is:

*a. An empirical generalization
b. A valid deduction
c. A selective observation
d. An overgeneralization
e. An illogical conclusion

6. The Sherman and Berk domestic violence study in Minneapolis and its replications suggested that arrest reduces recidivism in domestic cases only for employed persons. This conclusion was the result of:

a. Deductive reasoning based on testing a theoretical prediction
b. Consistent findings across all of the studies
c. An experimental test of the conditional effect of employment
d. Considering the procedural fairness of an arrest
*e. Inductive reasoning based on identifying patterns in data

7. Which of the following research questions would be the most feasible?

a. Would doubling the size of police forces around the country reduce crime rates?
b. Would a nationwide campaign against smoking increase the average lifespan?
c. Would marriage counseling reduce the divorce rate?
*d. Will an offender's criminal activity decrease when he becomes employed?
e. Will long-term incarceration rates lower crime rates over time?

8. Inductive reasoning:

a. Is less valid than deductive reasoning
b. Is used to deduce hypotheses from theories
*c. Uses data to develop general ideas or theories
d. Cannot be used to explain patterns or regularities in the data
e. Is another term for illogical reasoning

9. Descriptive research is:

a. An example of inductive research
b. An example of deductive research
c. A combination of inductive and deductive research
*d. Neither inductive nor deductive research
e. Not a type of research used in criminology and criminal justice

10. A researcher investigates the association between urban gangs and violence. He then constructs a theory stating that violent behavior is a function of deviant subcultures. His research project is an example of:

a. Unethical research
b. Socially unimportant research

c. Deductive research
d. Descriptive research
*e. Inductive research

11. For the hypothesis "if gun control laws are stricter, crime will decrease", _____ is the independent variable and _____ is the dependent variable.

    a. Gun owners' adherence to laws, criminal activity level
    b. Criminal activity level, gun owners' adherence to laws
    *c. Strength of gun control laws, criminal activity level
    d. Criminal activity level, strength of gun control laws
    e. Strength of gun control laws, gun owners' adherence to laws

12. When evaluating a potential research question, it is important that:

    a. The question is unlikely to be falsified
    b. The question has little social importance
    c. The question is scientifically irrelevant
    *d. The study is feasible given the time frame and resources
    e. The study will involve risk to subjects

13. The primary source of research questions is:

    a. Hypotheses
    *b. Theory
    c. Requests for proposals
    d. Personal interests
    e. Prior research

14. Which of the following is not a consideration when evaluating research questions?

    a. Scientific relevance
    b. Feasibility
    c. Social importance
    *d. Available funding
    e. All of the above are considerations when evaluation research questions.

15. Scientific relevance means that research should be:

    *a. Grounded in existing empirical literature
    b. Supported by theory
    c. Relevant to public policy
    d. Funding before being started
    e. conducted by scientists

16. One of the most important requirements of theory is that it is:

      a. Accurate
      b. Supported by funded research
      *c. Testable
      d. Worded as a question
      e. Can be worded as an if-then statement

17. Which of the following is an example of a constant?

      a. Airspeed of a diving falcon
      b. Launch velocity of the space shuttle
      c. The cost of a gallon of gasoline
      *d. The temperature at which water freezes
      e. Wind speed in the Sahara Desert

18. Which of the following is an example of a variable?

      a. The temperature at which all movement stops.
      b. A person's natural hair color
      c. Gender
      d. Ethnicity
      *e. Age

19. What is the independent variable in the following research question, "If inmates are visited more frequently will they be more likely to follow prison rules regardless of their gender, age, or ethnicity?"

      a. Inmate gender
      b. Inmate age
      *c. Frequency of Visitation
      d. Frequency of rule violations
      e. Inmate ethnicity

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21. The statement, "If a prison inmate is visited more frequently then he will be more likely to follow prison rules" is an example of a:

*a. Hypothesis
b. Theory
c. Theoretical Construct
d. Statement of variation
e. Variation assumption

22. All research questions should be developed based on existing theory.

a. True
*b. False

23. While we hope that criminological theories are true, good theories must be falsifiable.

*a. True
b. False

24. In strictly inductive research, the researcher already knows what she has found when she starts theorizing.

*a. True
b. False

25. Research questions may emerge from one's "personal troubles."

*a. True
b. False

26. Theory assists in making predictions about the criminological world.

*a. True
b. False

27. Research questions can come from the experiences of others.

*a. True
b. False

28. The best way to refine a research question is to keep writing it until you come up with a good one.

a. True
*b. False

29. The following is a good research question: "Would criminals be better people if they were to receive plastic surgery?"

      a. True
      *b. False

30. A research question that seeks to explain why your next door neighbor was robbed last week would be socially important, feasible, and scientifically relevant.

      a. True
      *b. False

31. Grounded research is research that has been based upon what others have learned in the past.

      *a. True
      b. False

32. Research is improved when the researcher is personally invested in a study.

      a. True
      *b. False

33. Researchers should inform the public about the procedures involved in their research.

      *a. True
      b. False

34. Sometimes the best research is done spontaneously.

      a. True
      *b. False

35. Since research assumptions are not tested they do not need to be clarified.

      a. True
      *b. False

36. Only the meaning of terms related to the independent and dependent variable in a study need to be clearly defined.

      a. True
      *b. False

37. Researchers should be skeptical about current knowledge.

    *a. True
    b. False

38. Researchers should remain interested in theory.

    *a. True
    b. False

39. Patterns and irregularities in data are usually not important and can be ignored.

    a. True
    *b. False

40. A _____ is a logically interrelated set of propositions about empirical reality.

    Correct Answer(s):
    a. theory

41. A _____ is a tentative statement about empirical reality, involving a relationship between two or more variables.

    Correct Answer(s):
    a. hypothesis

42. A characteristic or property that can vary (take on different values or attributes) is a _____.

    Correct Answer(s):
    a. variable

43. A characteristic or property that does not vary but takes on only one value is a _____.

    Correct Answer(s):
    a. constant

44. The _____ variable is hypothesized to influence the _____ variable.

    Correct Answer(s):
    a. independent; dependent

45. _____ research begins with specific data and then develops general ideas or theories to explain patterns in the data.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. inductive

46. _____ research proceeds from general ideas, deduces specific expectations from these ideas, and then tests the ideas with empirical data.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. deductive

47. All social research is the effort to connect theory and _____ data.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. empirical

48. The process of conducting research, moving from theory to data and back again or from data to theory and back again, can be characterized as a _____.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. research circle

49. _____ reasoning begins with specific reality and moves toward a general idea.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. inductive

50. _____ reasoning begins with a general idea and moves toward specific reality.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. deductive

51. Unexpected patterns in collected data are known as serendipitous or _____ findings.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. anomalous

52. A _____ is the variable that a researcher is looking for change in.

      Correct Answer(s):
      a. dependent variable

53. A _____ is the variable that is expected to cause change in something.

Correct Answer(s):
a. independent variable

54. To what extent, and in what circumstances, is inductive research preferable to deductive research? Identify in your answer the strengths and weaknesses of both research approaches.

Correct Answer:
varies

55. Consider the four phases of research on domestic violence. Write an essay in which you describe the extent to which scientific guidelines were (or were not) followed. Do you think that some guidelines are easier to adhere to in practice? Are some guidelines more important than others? Explain your answers.

Correct Answer:
varies

56. Suppose you are interested in the effect of technology on policing. Develop a research question based on this interest and then evaluate your question based on the three criteria for research question evaluation discussed in your textbook.

Correct Answer:
varies

57. Propose a basic social science research project. Give at least one hypothesis, at least one theory, and provide the basic outline for how you would conduct the research.

Correct Answer:
varies

58. Discuss the importance of theory in criminological research.

Correct Answer:
varies