

Practice Items

- **time yourself** on this section, and record how long it takes you; this information will be useful to you later on
 - if you work at the pace you will need on the actual AP Exam, this section should take you no more than 10 minutes and 30 seconds
 - if it takes you only three minutes and you get them all correct, more power to you! if you are done in less than seven minutes and you make 3 or more errors, then you ought to consider slowing down a bit
 - THESE SECTION ITEMS ARE **NOT** IN ORDER OF DIFFICULTY!
1. “This new drug will have no effect on levels of depression”. This is a statement of
 - (A) generalizability
 - (B) demand characteristic
 - (C) the null hypothesis
 - (D) a positive skew
 - (E) a negative skew

 2. Two psychologists are debating the merits of different approaches for studying the consistency of extroversion over a lifespan. Psychologist #1 argues for a longitudinal study, psychologist #2 for a cross sectional study. The best argument psychologist #2 might offer in opposition to his colleague’s position is
 - (A) psychologist #1’s approach would not allow for generalizability
 - (B) psychologist #1’s approach would not allow for selection of a representative sample
 - (C) psychologist #1’s approach is potentially limited by subject mortality
 - (D) psychologist #2’s approach offers more opportunity for consistency within the subject pool
 - (E) psychologist #2’s approach is the only valid method for examining development over the lifespan

 3. Which of the following pairs most accurately describes problems in Stanley Milgram’s research design that would render his 1963 study on obedience to authority unacceptable by today’s standards for ethical research?
 - (A) failure to obtain informed consent; failure to debrief subjects
 - (B) failure to allow volunteers to discontinue participation at any time; failure to utilize an absolute minimum of deception
 - (C) failure to maintain confidentiality; failure to secure informed consent
 - (D) failure to maintain confidentiality; failure to debrief volunteers
 - (E) failure to utilize an absolute minimum of deception; failure to use volunteers only

4. In administering a survey, use of a double blind procedure can help protect against
- (A) negatively skewed data
 - (B) positively skewed data
 - (C) reactance
 - (D) randomization of responses
 - (E) demand characteristic
5. For homework, an elementary school student is asked to find data about something he is personally interested in and to calculate the mean of that data. The next day, he reports to his classmates “the mean uniform number on my favorite professional football team is 51.3”. His calculation indicates he does not yet understand the limitations of
- (A) ratio data
 - (B) interval data
 - (C) confounded data
 - (D) ordinal data
 - (E) nominal data

* the next two items each refer to the following scenario:

Researchers design an experiment to test the effect of reading aloud on retention of the material read. One group of randomly assigned volunteers will read a story quietly to themselves, and a second group of randomly assigned volunteers will read the same story aloud. Both groups will then be assessed for retention of what they’ve read using a multiple choice test.

6. What is the independent variable (IV) in this experiment?
- (A) retention of facts in the story
 - (B) the story itself
 - (C) the reading of the story aloud
 - (D) the items on the multiple choice test
 - (E) reading