Nachmiass RMSS 8e Chapter 2

1. Which is NOT a function of concepts?

A) to facilitate communication

B) to validate personal beliefs and opinions

C) to permit classifications and generalization

D) to afford researchers a perspective

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of a concept?

A) Apple

B) Pear

C) Fruit

D) Blueberry

3. If we define "fame" as appearing twice per month on the covers of the top-selling weekly news magazines in the United States between 2013 and 2014, we would be using a(n):

A) taxonomy.

B) ostensive definition.

C) operational definition.

D) conceptual framework.

4. If we define a "group" as "two or more individuals who interact regularly," we would be using a(n):

A) conceptual definition.

B) ostensive definition.

C) operational definition.

D) theoretical framework.

5. Which level of theorizing would be involved if we were to ask survey respondents to categorize themselves as liberal, moderate, or conservative on a particular political issue?

A) ad-hoc classificatory system

B) taxonomy

C) conceptual framework

D) theoretical system

6. Which term is NOT a type of theory?

A) ad-hoc classificatory system

B) taxonomy

C) conceptual framework

D) all of these answers are correct

7. Which does NOT describe an advantage of axiomatic theory?

A) careful description and explanation of central concepts

B) parsimonious summaries of actual and anticipated research

C) incorporates research participants' own views and opinions

D) compatibility for causal analyses

8. A theoretical system which consists of interrelated statements and propositions logically derived from a set of concepts and definitions is known as a(n):

A) model.

B) paradigm..

C) taxonomy.

D) axiomatic theory.

9. In an axiomatic theory, propositions that are deduced from axioms and can be empirically tested are called:

A) operational definitions.

B) variables.

C) theorems.

D) concepts.

10. Treating concepts as though they were phenomena themselves is called:

A) the fallacy of reification.

B) theorizing.

C) operationalization.

D) the fallacy of conceptualization.

11. Which statement concerning the place of theory in empirical research is true?

A) It plays a central role in the research process.

B) It provides no basis for making practical decisions.

C) It is synonymous with moral philosophy.

D) It does not attempt to explain empirical phenomena.

12. Concepts serve several important functions in social science research, including all of these EXCEPT:

A) proving scientists with a set of steps (operations) for researching them.

B) providing scientists with a common language.

C) allowing scientists to classify and order their observations and experiences, and to generalize from them.

D) making up the components of theory.

13. In order for a complex concept such as "alienation" to be empirically researched, it must first be:

A) conceptually defined.

B) stated as an axiomatic theory.

C) modeled.

D) given a classification system.

14. A representation of reality that serves to order and simplify our view of reality while still representing its essential characteristics is known as a(n):

A) theory.

B) model.

C) concept.

D) axiom.

15. According to the text, which should come first—theory or empirical research?

A) theory, because research seldom generates new theories

B) theory, because research does not serve as a logical method for theory construction

C) research, because research helps shape the development of theory

D) either, because theory and research interact constantly