Nachmiass RMSS 8e Chapter 3

1. The starting point for all scientific research is:

 A) stating the problem.

 B) outlining a theory.

 C) identifying the variables.

 D) developing a research design.

2. Which term describes a variable rather than a concept?

 A) insanity

 B) political power

 C) years of education

 D) liberalism

3. Which set of terms is a set of variables?

 A) sophomore, Catholic, right-handed

 B) female, Norwegian, blond

 C) nonvoter, banker, divorced

 D) income, religion, occupation

4. If we observe that there is more violence in less democratic counties, we would be committing an individualistic fallacy if we concluded that:

 A) democracy discourages violence.

 B) democracy encourages violence.

 C) democrats are non-violent people.

 D) none of these answers is correct.

5. If we observe that more Catholic women have abortions than Methodist women in a given year, we would be committing an ecological fallacy if we concluded that:

 A) the Catholic church is pro-abortion.

 B) Catholic women initiate sexual relationships at younger ages compared to Methodist women.

 C) Catholic women face normative sanctions in securing and using birth control relative to Methodist women.

 D) none of these answers is correct.

6. When we say that two variables covary, we mean that the:

 A) variables are causally related.

 B) relationship between the variables is spurious.

 C) variables are unrelated to each other.

 D) variables tend to change together, and so presumably have something in common with one other.

7. Consider the following hypothesis: "The degree of political participation varies with one's self-esteem." In this hypothesis the independent variable is:

 A) "degree of political participation."

 B) "varies with."

 C) "sense of self-esteem."

 D) not able to be determined from the given information.

8. If people's income and their approval of government safety net programs are negatively related, then which statement is true?

 A) Poor people disapprove of safety net programs.

 B) Wealthy people disapprove of safety net programs.

 C) Wealthy people approve of welfare programs.

 D) Income has no effect on approval of welfare programs.

9. A variable is discrete if it:

 A) can be subdivided.

 B) has a minimum-sized unit .

 C) assumes an infinite number of values.

 D) is continuous.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of a continuous variable?

 A) Religious affiliation

 B) Marital status

 C) Age

 D) Whether a survey respondent has completed high school or not

11. Suppose we observe a higher incidence of rape and ice cream sales during a certain season of the year. In this case, "season of the year" might be a reasonable \_\_\_\_\_ variable.

 A) independent

 B) dependent

 C) control

 D) dichotomous

12. If we discover that ice cream sales and the incidence of rape are both related to the season of the year, we would conclude that the original relationship between ice cream cone sales and the incidence of rape is:

 A) spurious.

 B) causal

 C) inverse

 D) positive

13. Research hypotheses must be all of these EXCEPT:

 A) value free.

 B) divorced from prior research.

 C) testable.

 D) specific.

14. Which of the following is a potential source for deriving research hypotheses?

 A) theory

 B) observation

 C) previous literature

 D) all of these answers are correct

15. "The degree of urbanization in a society varies with technological development." This statement is BEST categorized as a(n):

 A) concept.

 B) operation.

 C) variable.

 D) hypothesis.