Nachmiass RMSS 8e Chapter 5

1. Which statement does NOT describe a function of research designs?

 A) guiding the process of collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data

 B) enabling the researcher to draw inferences of cause-effect relationships

  **\*** C) selecting a topic for research

 D) determining whether research findings can be generalized to a large population or to different situations

2. Which action is NOT essential for proving the existence of a causal relationship between two variables?

 A) showing that the variables are associated

 B) establishing that the independent variable occurs prior to the dependent variable

 C) showing that the association is not the result of some other factor

**\*** D) demonstrating that the findings obtained can be generalized to larger populations and different settings

3. In an experimental research design, manipulation allows one to determine:

 A) whether research participants have been deceived as to the nature of an experiment.

  **\*** B) the time order of the independent and dependent variables.

 C) whether two variables are associated.

 D) whether an observed association is spurious.

4. If one were to observe that people on high-cholesterol diets have higher blood pressure than people on low-cholesterol diets, the conclusion could be made that:

  **\*** A) cholesterol intake and blood pressure are associated.

 B) high cholesterol causes high blood pressure.

 C) the relationship between cholesterol intake and blood pressure is spurious.

 D) high blood pressure causes high cholesterol.

5. In an experimental research design, the purpose of setting up experimental and control groups is to demonstrate:

**\*** A) comparison.

 B) manipulation.

 C) control.

 D) generalization.

6. Internal validity is a question of:

 A) comparison.

 B) covariation.

  **\*** C) control.

 D) manipulation.

7. In experiments, external validity involves the issue of whether:

  **\*** A) findings obtained in one setting can be generalized to other settings.

 B) a given independent variable is the cause of a given dependent variable.

 C) the time sequence of the independent and dependent variables has been established.

 D) concepts are being accurately measured by the independent and dependent variables.

8. Generally, experimental research designs are weakest in:

 A) comparison.

 B) manipulation.

 C) control.

**\*** D) generalization.

9. To study the impact of a new federal law enforcement program on reducing drug trafficking, you select a sample of major U.S. cities that led the nation in drug arrests in 2012, before the program was implemented. In 2014, after the crackdown began, you find that drug arrests in these cities dropped. If you conclude that the new law enforcement program caused the decline in drug arrests, you could be criticized for ignoring the effects of:

 A) history.

 B) subject mortality.

 C) sensitivity to testing.

  **\*** D) regression artifacts.

10. Which method is generally the MOST desirable for the control of extrinsic factors?

  **\*** A) randomization

 B) frequency distribution matching

 C) precision matching

 D) generalizing

11. The use of matching to control extrinsic factors is difficult when:

 A) subjects volunteer to be included in the experimental group.

  **\*** B) the number of relevant factors to be controlled is large.

 C) the Solomon four-group research design is used.

 D) the posttest-only control group research design is used.

12. Suppose you are conducting an experiment on the effects of reading romance novels on attitudes toward marriage. If John gets divorced during the experiment, but takes the posttest, which of the following could threaten the internal validity of your experiment?

 A) history

  **\*** B) maturation

 C) experimental mortality

 D) regression artifacts

13. In the experiment described in Question 12, what threat to internal validity might be presented if John decided to discontinue his participation in the experiment?

 A) history

 B) testing

  **\*** C) experimental mortality

 D) instrumentation

14. What is the major difference between the classic experimental design and the Solomon four-group design?

 A) No posttest is administered in the Solomon four-group design.

 B) The Solomon four-group employs no control groups.

**\*** C) The Solomon four-group adds an experimental group and a control group, neither of which is pretested.

 D) The Solomon four-group uses four experimental groups, each of which receives a different posttest.

15. Which research design allows the researcher to assess the effects of more than one independent variable?

 A) the classic experiment

  **\*** B) the factorial design

 C) the posttest-only control group design

 D) the double-blind experiment

**Note:** Correct options are marked with “\*”.