**PSY 250 Sample Questions for Exam 1**

**Multiple Choice**

*Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.*

\_\_\_\_ 1. Seeking answers by using the reference materials in a college library is an example of using the

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| a. | method of empiricism. |
| b. | rational method. |
| c. | method of authority. |
| d. | scientific method. |

\_\_\_\_ 2. When you "know" that you do not want to eat fried worms, even when everyone around you says that they taste great, your decision is based on

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| a. | the method of empiricism. |
| b. | the method of faith. |
| c. | the method of tenacity. |
| d. | the method of authority. |

\_\_\_\_ 3. A group of students in a cooking class is trying to find a faster way to bake a cake. They know that it takes 30 minutes to bake a cake at 350 degrees, so they figure that it should take only 15 minutes at 700 degrees. These students are using the \_\_\_\_ to solve the problem.

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| a. | method of empiricism |
| b. | rational method |
| c. | method of authority |
| d. | scientific method |

\_\_\_\_ 4. A problem with the rational method of knowing or acquiring knowledge is that

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| a. | you may not have a complete set of premise statements. |
| b. | one or more of your premise statements may be incorrect. |
| c. | you may not be very good at combining premise statements to produce a valid conclusion. |
| d. | all of the other choices are potential problems with the rational method. |

\_\_\_\_ 5. When your doctor asks you whether you have been sleeping well at night, the doctor is gathering information by using the \_\_\_\_.

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| a. | method of authority |
| b. | rational method |
| c. | empirical method |
| d. | method of intuition |

\_\_\_\_ 6. An explanation is *empirical* if it is

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| a. | based on widely held beliefs. |
| b. | based on logical deductions. |
| c. | based on evidence of the senses. |
| d. | based on respect for the source of the explanation. |

\_\_\_\_ 7. A limitation of using the method of empiricism is

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| a. | people can be fooled so that they misperceive the world around them. |
| b. | people see things accurately but misinterpret their perceptions. |
| c. | the method of empiricism can be time consuming and even dangerous. |
| d. | the other three choices are all limitations. |

\_\_\_\_ 8. Using observations of humans to form a hypothesis about human behavior is an example of

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| a. | inductive reasoning. |
| b. | deductive reasoning. |
| c. | practical reasoning. |
| d. | predictive reasoning. |

\_\_\_\_ 9. Using a hypothesis about human behavior to predict how a group of individuals will react is an example of

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| a. | inductive reasoning. |
| b. | deductive reasoning. |
| c. | practical reasoning. |
| d. | predictive reasoning. |

\_\_\_\_ 10. If a researcher's bias or expectations are allowed to influence the results of a study, then the integrity of the scientific method is threatened because

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| a. | it means that the research study or the results are not public. |
| b. | it means that the research study or the results are not objective. |
| c. | it means that the research study or the results are not empirical. |
| d. | it means that the research study or the results are not ethical. |

\_\_\_\_ 13. A researcher conducts a study in which 50 rats are assigned to different treatments and tested. In the study, the rats are called

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| a. | research associates. |
| b. | research cohorts. |
| c. | research participants. |
| d. | research subjects. |

\_\_\_\_ 14. The last step in the research process is

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| a. | actually collecting the data. |
| b. | using statistical techniques to evaluate the results. |
| c. | preparing a research report to make the results public. |
| d. | generating new questions or new hypothesis to restart the research cycle. |

\_\_\_\_ 15. Observing the behavior of adolescents at the mall, you get some ideas about what may be causing the behavior. This is an example of getting research ideas from

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| a. | theory. |
| b. | casual observation. |
| c. | systematic observation. |
| d. | second hand information. |

\_\_\_\_ 16. Young children occasionally have temper tantrums. You wonder what is the best way for parents to handle these episodes. This is an example of getting research ideas from

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| --- | --- |
| a. | theory. |
| b. | casual observation. |
| c. | practical problems. |
| d. | systematic observation. |

\_\_\_\_ 17. Common mistakes in choosing a research topic include:

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| a. | topic too easy. |
| b. | staying with your first topic. |
| c. | topic too broad. |
| d. | the other three choices are all common mistakes. |

\_\_\_\_ 19. The introduction section of a research report is an example of a \_\_\_\_ source.

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| a. | primary |
| b. | secondary |
| c. | premier |
| d. | germinal |

\_\_\_\_ 20. The \_\_\_\_ section often provides suggestions for additional research.

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| --- | --- |
| a. | introduction |
| b. | method |
| c. | results |
| d. | discussion |

\_\_\_\_ 21. Which type of definition specifies how a construct is measured?

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| a. | conceptual |
| b. | theoretical |
| c. | operational |
| d. | research |

\_\_\_\_ 23. You develop a new measure of love and you decide it looks like it measures love. You have demonstrated

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| --- | --- |
| a. | concurrent validity. |
| b. | discriminant validity. |
| c. | face validity. |
| d. | reliability. |

\_\_\_\_ 24. You develop a new measure of love and you find that people who score high on your measure show more loving behavior than people who score low. You have demonstrated

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| a. | concurrent validity. |
| b. | divergent validity. |
| c. | predictive validity. |
| d. | reliability. |

\_\_\_\_ 25. The textbook describes a study by McClelland (1958) in which the need-for-achievement test was administered to a group of children and then the children were observed while they played a ring-toss game. The purpose of this study was to establish \_\_\_\_ validity for the test.

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| a. | face |
| b. | concurrent |
| c. | predictive |
| d. | convergent |

\_\_\_\_ 26. Which type of validity requires multiple research studies, usually conducted over a long period of time?

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| a. | face |
| b. | concurrent |
| c. | predictive |
| d. | Construct |

\_\_\_\_ 27. A measure is *reliable* if it

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| a. | produces data that are repeatable. |
| b. | measures what you intend it to measure. |
| c. | produces data that make sense. |
| d. | produces data that are obvious. |

\_\_\_\_ 28. The method of establishing the reliability of a measure involving administration of the measure more than once is known as

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| a. | split-half reliability. |
| b. | internal reliability. |
| c. | test-retest reliability. |
| d. | inter-rater reliability. |

\_\_\_\_ 29. Two observers agree on their measurements of a behavior. The researchers have established what kind reliability?

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| --- | --- |
| a. | split-half reliability |
| b. | internal reliability |
| c. | test-retest reliability |
| d. | inter-rater reliability |

\_\_\_\_ 30. Which situation illustrates the use of an ordinal scale of measurement?

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| a. | Management of a company counts the number of employees in each division of a company. |
| b. | Consumers rate the pleasant taste of foods on a scale of 1 to 9. |
| c. | Employees of a company are classified as management or line workers. |
| d. | Companies are ranked according to their amount of sales. |

\_\_\_\_ 31. Recording the number of absences for each student during the semester would be an example of measurement on a(n) \_\_\_\_ scale.

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| a. | nominal |
| b. | ordinal |
| c. | interval |
| d. | ratio |

\_\_\_\_ 32. If two individuals are measured and their measurements are different, which scale of measurement does not permit you to determine which individual has the larger measurement?

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| --- | --- |
| a. | nominal |
| b. | ordinal |
| c. | interval |
| d. | ratio |

\_\_\_\_ 33. Counting the number of people who smile at a baby in a stroller as they pass by is an example of a \_\_\_\_

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| a. | self-report measure. |
| b. | Survey  |
| c. | Behavioral measure. |
| d. | Physiological measure. |

\_\_\_\_ 34. When a researcher intentionally or unintentionally affects a participant's motivation, this is known as

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| a. | range effects. |
| b. | participant reactivity. |
| c. | experimenter bias. |
| d. | demand characteristics. |

\_\_\_\_ 35. A study where neither the experimenter nor the participant know the expected results is known as

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| a. | single blind. |
| b. | double blind. |
| c. | reactive. |
| d. | biased. |

\_\_\_\_ 36. *Ethics* is concerned with

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| a. | right versus wrong. |
| b. | moral versus immoral. |
| c. | truth versus falsehood. |
| d. | proper versus improper. |

\_\_\_\_ 37. The issue of ethics must be kept in mind during which of the steps in the research process?

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| a. | conducting studies |
| b. | analyzing data |
| c. | reporting results |
| d. | the other three choices are all steps in the research process where ethics must be considered |

\_\_\_\_ 38. A researcher's responsibility to the discipline of science includes

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| a. | ensuring that research participants are informed volunteers. |
| b. | ensuring the confidentiality of participants. |
| c. | ensuring that participants are treated with respect. |
| d. | ensuring that research results are reported accurately and honestly. |

\_\_\_\_ 39. Prior to the end of WWII researchers

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| a. | followed the Nuremberg Code. |
| b. | followed the APA Ethics Code. |
| c. | were presumed to establish their own ethical guidelines. |
| d. | were free of ethical obligations. |

\_\_\_\_ 40. Most of the early attempts to establish ethical guidelines were focused on

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| a. | psychological research with animal subjects. |
| b. | psychological research with humans. |
| c. | medical research with humans. |
| d. | medical research with animals. |

\_\_\_\_ 41. Although the intent of informed consent is to provide participants with complete information about a research study before they agree to participate, often this is impossible because

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| a. | deception is an important part of the research. |
| b. | if participants knew the true purpose of the study they might produce artificial behavior. |
| c. | sometimes researchers do not know exactly what will happen in the study. |
| d. | the other three choices are all reasons that informed consent is impossible. |

\_\_\_\_ 42. If a researcher fails to explain what will happen in a research study using language that potential participants can understand, then the researcher has violated the intent of

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| a. | confidentiality. |
| b. | preventing harm. |
| c. | informed consent. |
| d. | anonymity. |

\_\_\_\_ 43. *Passive deception* refers to

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| a. | deception that is not justified by the study's potential value. |
| b. | deception that is justified by the study's potential value. |
| c. | withholding information from participants. |
| d. | presenting misinformation to participants. |

\_\_\_\_ 44. A researcher who tells participants that a questionnaire is measuring political attitudes when in fact it is measuring racial prejudices, is committing

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| a. | active deception. |
| b. | passive deception. |
| c. | fraud. |
| d. | plagiarism. |

\_\_\_\_ 46. Debriefing is

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| a. | always effective at removing lingering effects. |
| b. | more effective the sooner it is delivered. |
| c. | more effective with active deception. |
| d. | a continuation of the deception. |

\_\_\_\_ 47. Confidentiality

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| a. | assumes that information obtained from each participant will be kept secret and private. |
| b. | reduces the negative effects of deception. |
| c. | conceals the nature of the study. |
| d. | involves deceiving participants. |

\_\_\_\_ 48. Researchers often use a coding system to identify data during the course of a research study. The reason for using codes is

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| a. | to ensure that participants have complete informed consent. |
| b. | to help protect confidentiality. |
| c. | to help with data analysis. |
| d. | it is a required part of all research with human participants. |

\_\_\_\_ 49. If a researcher tells stories at a party describing the behavior of individual participants in his or her research study, then which ethical principle is being compromised?

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| a. | no harm |
| b. | informed consent |
| c. | confidentiality |
| d. | anonymity |

\_\_\_\_ 50. A researcher is interested in the eating behavior of rats and selects a group of 25 rats to be tested in a research study. The group of 25 rats is a \_\_\_\_.

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| a. | sample |
| b. | statistic |
| c. | population |
| d. | parameter |

\_\_\_\_ 51. A researcher is curious about the average IQ of registered voters in the state of Florida. The entire group of registered voters in Florida is an example of a \_\_\_\_.

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| a. | sample |
| b. | statistic |
| c. | population |
| d. | parameter |

**PSY 361 midterm sample MC questions**

**Answer Section**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

 1. ANS: C REF: 8 OBJ: www

 2. ANS: C REF: 8 OBJ: www

 3. ANS: B REF: 11-12

 4. ANS: D REF: 13

 5. ANS: A REF: 8 OBJ: www

 6. ANS: C REF: 14

 7. ANS: D REF: 14-15

 8. ANS: A REF: 17

 9. ANS: B REF: 18-19

 10. ANS: B REF: 23

 13. ANS: D REF: 29

 14. ANS: D REF: 30

 15. ANS: B REF: 37 OBJ: www

 16. ANS: C REF: 37-38 OBJ: www

 17. ANS: D REF: 39-41

 19. ANS: B REF: 43

 20. ANS: D REF: 55

 21. ANS: C REF: 66

 23. ANS: C REF: 68

 24. ANS: C REF: 69

 25. ANS: C REF: 69

 26. ANS: D REF: 69-70

 27. ANS: A REF: 72

 28. ANS: C REF: 74

 29. ANS: D REF: 74

 30. ANS: D REF: 76

 31. ANS: D REF: 77

 32. ANS: A REF: 76

 33. ANS: C REF: 80

 34. ANS: C REF: 83 OBJ: www

 35. ANS: B REF: 84

 36. ANS: D REF: 89 OBJ: www

 37. ANS: D REF: 89-90

 38. ANS: D REF: 90

 39. ANS: C REF: 90

 40. ANS: C REF: 91

 41. ANS: D REF: 97-98

 42. ANS: C REF: 98 OBJ: www

 43. ANS: C REF: 100 OBJ: www

 44. ANS: A REF: 100

 46. ANS: B REF: 102 OBJ: www

 47. ANS: A REF: 103-104

 48. ANS: B REF: 104

 49. ANS: C REF: 103-104

 50. ANS: A REF: 117

 51. ANS: C REF: 117