CHAPTER 1: HUMAN INQUIRY AND SCIENCE

Question 1
Much of what we know, we know by
a. tradition
b. experience
c. agreement
d. observation
e. conducting research

Question 2
A particular society takes the position that alternative views of reality are legitimate. Which view is this?

a. nonmodern
b. premodern
c. modern
d. heliomodern
e. postmodern

Question 3
Causal reasoning suggests that
a. present circumstances cause future circumstances
b. probabilistic reasoning is not involved
c. future circumstances cause present circumstances
d. we use a premodern view
e. exceptions disprove the existence of causal connections

Question 4
Samantha has concluded that living in a coed residence hall makes residents more androgynous. As she continues her research, she tends to focus on events and situations that fit this pattern. Which error in inquiry is reflected?

a. inaccurate observation
b. selective observation
c. over generalization
d. replication
e. illogical reasoning

Question 5
Vanessa wishes to use church attendance as a factor in her study, with the categories "none," "some," and "a lot." Church attendance and the categories are known as respectively
a. a variable and attributes
b. probabilistic and causal
c. theory and method
d. attributes and a variable
e. method and theory

Question 6
The distinction between quantitative and qualitative data in social research is essentially the distinction between
a. useful data and less useful data
b. theory and method
c. good data and less good data
d. numerical and non numerical data
e. philosophy and religion

Question 7
Makita studied the literature on binge drinking and discovered a pattern between gender and binge drinking that might be logically and theoretically expected. She then did her study of college students and drinking. Which approach is reflected?

a. pure
b. deductive
c. transductive
d. inductive
e. applied

Question 8
Joe wished to explain every possible reason why his sister chose to attend the University of British Columbia, including personal, family, school, peer, and other types of influences. What Joe is doing is called

a. pure research
b. applied research
c. an idiographic explanation
d. deductive reasoning
e. a nomothetic explanation

Question 9
Social researchers who put their research into practice are called
a. pure researchers
b. applied researchers
c. nomothetic researchers
d. quantitative researchers
e. qualitative researchers

Question 10
You are interested in studying female inmates in Canadian federal correctional facilities. An ethical issue that might be of particular concern is
a. anonymity
b. confidentiality
c. physical harm
d. psychological harm
e. voluntary participation

CHAPTER TWO: PARADIGMS, THEORY, AND RESEARCH

Question 1
The fundamental models or frames of reference we use to organize our observations and reasoning are called
a. paradigms
b. macrotheory
c. microtheory
d. propositions
e. positivistic stages
Question 2
Emile Durkheim suggested that crimes and their punishment provide an opportunity to reaffirm society's values. Which paradigm was Durkheim most likely following?

a. a conflict paradigm  
b. feminist paradigm  
c. an ethnomethodologist paradigm  
d. a structural functionalist paradigm  
e. a symbolic interactionist paradigm

Question 3
Abstract elements representing classes of phenomena within the field of study are called

a. axioms  
b. theories  
c. concepts  
d. variables  
e. hypotheses

Question 4
Danielle designs a survey to test whether male or female university students are more likely to abuse substances. To do so, she asks respondents “Are you male or female?” and then asks them to indicate the frequency to which they use alcohol during the week with “How often do you drink alcohol during the week?” This represents a:

a. theoretical definition  
b. operational definition  
c. conceptual definition  
d. hypothetical definition  
e. positivistic definition

Question 5
Theory and research interact through:

a. science  
b. positivism  
c. deduction  
d. induction  
e. an alternation of deduction and induction

Question 6
At the scene of a crime, Sherlock Holmes collects evidence and then, on the basis of that evidence, he formulates a general idea of what happened. Here, the great literary detective is illustrating the:

a. deductive method  
b. inductive method  
c. nomothetic method  
d. idiographic method  
e. intersubjective method

Question 7
Janet believes that people are continually creating social structure through their actions and interactions. What paradigm is Janet following?

a. positivism  
b. ethnomethodology

Question 8
Lenski’s theory of social stratification that explains overall societal inequality across thousands of years of human societies is an example of a(n)

a. axiom  
b. postulate  
c. proposition  
d. microtheory  
e. macrotheory

CHAPTER THREE: THE IDEA OF CAUSATION IN SOCIAL RESEARCH

Question 1
To find out why people voted for or against the 1995 referendum on sovereignty held in Quebec, a researcher would most likely use a(n)

a. deterministic model of explanation  
b. idiographic model of explanation  
c. nomothetic model of explanation  
d. inductive model of explanation  
e. deductive model of explanation

Question 2
Which of the following is NOT a criterion for establishing causation?

a. association  
b. perfect correlation  
c. cause before effect  
d. no spurious relationship  
e. no alternative explanation

Question 3
Relationships that are not genuine are called

a. correlations  
b. causal relationships  
c. negative relationships  
d. spurious relationships  
e. empirical relationships

Question 4
Linda finds that people with higher levels of education are less likely to be prejudiced than people with lower levels of education. This represents a(n)

a. positive relationship  
b. negative relationship  
c. spurious relationship  
d. nomothetic relationship  
e. idiographic relationship
Question 5
Skipping an exam in your research methods course would be a ____________ cause for failing the course

a. necessary
b. sufficient
c. necessary and sufficient
d. neither necessary nor sufficient
e. none of the above

Question 6
Qualitative data more readily lend themselves to

a. determinism
b. causal statements
c. spurious relationships
d. nomothetic explanations
e. idiographic explanations

Question 7
Which of the following errors in reasoning suggests that we all look at the world through glasses framed by our particular histories and current situations?

a. provincialism
b. false dilemma
c. hasty conclusion
d. questionable cause
e. suppressed evidence

Question 8
Explanatory scientific research depends implicitly on

a. a nomothetic model of human behaviour
b. an idiographic model of human behaviour
c. a correlational model of human behaviour
d. a deterministic model of human behaviour
e. a philosophical model of human behaviour

CHAPTER FOUR: RESEARCH DESIGN

Question 1
The Canadian Census is an excellent example of

a. descriptive social research
b. explanatory social research
c. exploratory social research
d. both descriptive and explanatory social research
e. both explanatory and exploratory social research

Question 2
Exploratory studies are most appropriate for

a. discovering why something happens
b. examining cause and effect relationships
c. detailing the particular culture of a preliterate society
d. testing the feasibility of undertaking a more extensive study
e. describing accurately and precisely a wide variety of characteristics

Question 3
Units of analysis in a study

a. are always individuals
b. can never be societies
c. can never be social artifacts
d. are often also the units of observation
e. are always different than the units of observation

Question 4
In a classical experimental study of children's aggressive behaviour in response to media violence, Bandura, Ross and Ross (1960) found that the effects of exposure to violence varied with the child's gender, with boys showing more aggressive responses than girls. The unit(s) of analysis in this study is (are)

a. media violence
b. individual children
c. groups of children
d. aggressive behaviour
e. exposure to violence

Question 5
In a study of effectiveness of self-managing teams, Cohen and Ledford (1994) studied work teams in a telecommunications company in which some work teams were self-managing and some were traditionally managed by a supervisor. The researchers found that both job performance and self-reported quality or work were higher in self-managing than traditionally managed groups. The units of analysis in this study are

a. individuals
b. groups
c. organizations
d. social artifacts
e. societies

Question 6
Smart, Adlaf and Walsh (1993) wanted to know whether drug use among Ontario youth was declining. To find out, they compared the results of surveys on alcohol and drug use conducted in 87 schools every two years from 1979 until 1991. A variety of the same questions tapping drug use were asked in each survey. Overall, the analysis showed that drug use, especially alcohol use, was down. This study represents a

a. panel study
b. trend study
c. cohort study
d. cross-sectional study
e. none of the above

Question 7
In longitudinal studies, some of the respondents studied in the first wave of the survey may not participate in later waves, whether by choice or circumstance. This is referred to as

a. triangulation
b. panel attrition
c. retrospective data
d. the ecological fallacy
e. the individualistic fallacy
Question 8
The following is NOT an element of the research proposal:

a. analysis
b. measurement
c. triangulation
d. ethical approval
e. literature review

Question 1
Jim wanted to be particularly careful to represent all levels of feelings about how ethical members the federal Cabinet are. So, instead of just asking how much respondents agreed with a statement that "Members of the Cabinet are ethical," he instead asked for responses ranging from "Members are completely unethical" to "Members are always very ethical." Jim was responding to which operationalization choice?

a. reliability
b. range of variation
c. multiple dimensions
d. level of measurement
e. variations beyond the extremes

Question 2
Which method for establishing reliability does not depend on using the measure itself?

a. face reliability
b. split-half reliability
c. test-retest reliability
d. using established measures
e. research worker reliability

Question 3
Ignatius wanted to be sure he covered the full range of meanings in his measurement of happiness among college students. Given this, he was particularly concerned with

a. face validity
b. content validity
c. criterion validity
d. construct validity
e. test-retest validity

Question 4
Lucinda established the validity of her religiosity measure by making sure it jibed with our common agreements and our individual mental images concerning her concept. She did this by checking with other people, particularly those familiar with religious issues. Which measure of validity did she use?

a. face validity
b. content validity
c. construct validity
d. split-half validity
e. criterion-related validity

Question 5
Nominal definitions most closely parallel which type of validity measure?

a. criterion-related validity
b. construct validity
c. split-half validity
d. face validity
e. content validity

Question 6
Myrna measured the class level of students at her university, which offers three-year general degrees, four-year honours degrees, and graduate programmes, with these attributes: first-year, second-year, third-year, fourth-year. Which quality of measures does this measure lack?

a. must be a real definition
b. must be ratio level
c. must be exhaustive
d. must be mutually exclusive
e. must have interchangeability of indicators

Question 7
Luke developed a measure of religious affiliation that included these attributes: Protestant, Baptist, Catholic, Jewish, Other, None. Which quality of measures does this measure lack?

a. must be exhaustive
b. must be ratio level
c. must be a real definition
d. must be mutually exclusive
e. must have interchangeability of indicators

Question 8
A sign of the presence or absence of the concept we are studying is called

a. an indicator
b. a dimension
c. a nominal definition
d. an operational definition
e. creating conceptual order

Question 9
These multiple-choice questions are an example of a(n)

a. nominal measure
b. ordinal measure
c. interval measure
d. ratio measure
e. none of the above

Question 10
Income, measured in amount of dollars per year, is an example of a(n)

a. nominal measure
b. ordinal measure
c. interval measure
d. ratio measure
e. none of the above
CHAPTER EIGHT: EXPERIMENTS

Question 1
Which design addresses the problem of testing interaction with the stimulus?

a. double-blind design
b. posttest-only control-group design
c. Solomon four-group design
d. one-shot case study
e. static group comparison

Question 2
Kenny performed an experiment on the effects of after-school educational activities on students’ academic performance. His experimental group involved after-school educational activities and his control group involved after-school non-educational activities. The children in the control group felt left out and gave up on the experiment. Which source of internal invalidity is reflected?

a. demoralization
b. testing
c. statistical regression
d. selection biases
e. instrumentation

Question 3
Izzie performed a study in which she introduced a stimulus, longer coffee breaks, and then measured how often employees left early, the dependent variable. No pretests were done. Which design did she use?

a. double-blind design
b. one-shot case study
c. static group comparison
d. posttest-only control-group design
e. Solomon four-group design

Question 4
The posttest-only control group most closely represents which preexperimental design?

a. one-group pretest-posttest design
b. Solomon four-group design
c. static-group comparison design
d. one-shot case study
e. double-blind design

Question 5
Igor wanted to do an experiment testing the effects of a new classroom strategy for teaching reading on reading skills of elementary school students. He used random assignment and wanted to make sure that neither the subjects nor the experimenters knew which is the experimental group and which is the control group. The best to use would be the

a. one-group pretest-posttest design
b. double-blind design
c. ex-post facto design
d. natural experiment design
e. static group comparison

Question 6
Lee selected people with only the highest self-esteem scores for her experiment on the effects of divorce on self-esteem. She should be particularly alert to which potential source of internal invalidity?

a. statistical regression
b. testing
c. demoralization
d. history
e. maturation

Question 7
To select subjects in participate in experiments, researchers are not likely to use

a. matching
b. randomization
c. probability sampling techniques
d. random assignment of subjects to experimental and control groups
e. none of the above

Question 8
In experimentation, external invalidity relates to

a. the biasing effect of testing on subjects
b. issues of conceptualization and operationalization
c. the generalizability of experimental findings to the real world
d. ambiguity about the time order of the experimental stimulus and the dependent variable
e. the possibility that the conclusions drawn from experimental results may not accurately reflect what has gone on in the experiment itself

Question 9
The greatest weakness of laboratory experiments is

a. their artificiality
b. that they are relatively expensive
c. that they are relatively time-consuming
d. their ability to lend themselves to replicability
e. the isolation of the experimental stimulus and its impact over time
ANSWERS TO PRACTICE
MIDTERM QUESTIONS

CHAPTER 1: HUMAN INQUIRY AND SCIENCE

1. C
2. E [C actually seems like the answer to this question; it is just badly worded and should make reference to ‘alternative realities’ rather than alternative views of reality, if it were to really be post-modern]
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. D
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. E

CHAPTER TWO: PARADIGMS, THEORY, AND RESEARCH

1. A
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. E
6. B
7. B
8. E

CHAPTER THREE: THE IDEA OF CAUSATION IN SOCIAL RESEARCH

1. B
2. B
3. D
4. B
5. B
6. E
7. A
8. D

CHAPTER FOUR: RESEARCH DESIGN

1. A
2. D
3. D
4. B
5. B
6. B
7. B
8. C

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCEPTUALIZATION, OPERATIONALIZATION, AND MEASUREMENT

1. B
2. D
3. B
4. A
5. E
6. C
7. D
8. A
9. A
10. D

CHAPTER EIGHT: EXPERIMENTS

1. C
2. A
3. B [the site says D but this is wrong; the correct answer should be B]
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. C
8. C
9. A [note: I skipped a question on the Milgram experiment originally labeled as 9 which answer was C]