

***Schools and Society A Sociological Approach to
Education 6th edition Ballantine Test Bank***

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Chapter 2: Studying Schools: Research Methods in Education

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. Being able to generalize your findings to a larger group of schools or individuals is an advantage of _____.

- A. quantitative methods only
- B. qualitative methods only
- C. both quantitative and qualitative methods
- D. neither quantitative nor qualitative methods

Ans: A

2. Researchers who use quantitative methods must be particularly careful to assure _____.

- A. the validity of their questions
- B. the reliability of their questions
- C. that their questions establish causality
- D. the validity of their questions and the reliability of their questions

Ans: D

3. Something that quantitative research designs must consider that qualitative researcher designs do not typically address is issues surrounding _____.

- A. validity
- B. reliability
- C. generalizability
- D. theory

Ans: C

4. A study examining why African American children succeed in school by interviewing children and their teachers is an example of _____ research.

- A. statistical
- B. quantitative
- C. qualitative
- D. theoretical

Ans: C

5. Following children for 4 years, from entering high school until graduation is an example of _____.

- A. quantitative research
- B. qualitative methods
- C. longitudinal analysis

D. generalizability

Ans: C

6. One advantage of field experiments according to Biddle and Berliner is that researchers can _____.

- A. conduct research in less time than is typical of most research
- B. easily interpret the results
- C. assign their subjects randomly to different conditions
- D. provide a definitive answer to the dilemma of class size

Ans: C

7. Research on class size finds _____.

- A. class size has no effect on children's achievement at the elementary school level
- B. class size impacts children's achievement at the high school level
- C. research on class size consistently finds no effect of class size on children's achievement at all levels of education
- D. none of these

Ans: D

8. According to the Tennessee STAR Project, standard classes are those with _____.

- A. one certificated teacher and less than 20 students
- B. one certificated teacher and more than 20 students
- C. one certificated teacher and one full-time aide
- D. one full-time aide with 20 or more students

Ans: B

9. If a researcher collects observational data in natural settings this research is _____.

- A. qualitative
- B. quantitative
- C. hierarchical
- D. equitable

Ans: A

10. According to Biddle and Berliner, a major difference between previous research on class size and more reliable research was the use of _____.

- A. larger studies with more schools, classrooms, and children
- B. comparisons of children in different class size settings
- C. studying children over time, not just for 1 year
- D. all of these

Ans: D

11. Which of the following is true?

- A. Validity is more of a problem in qualitative methods than quantitative methods.
- B. Statistics are commonly used in qualitative methods.
- C. Reliability is never an issue in quantitative methods.
- D. Large-scale longitudinal studies are likely to use quantitative methodology.

Ans: D

12. According to Bracey, which of the following statistics are most effective in understanding how well children are performing in schools _____.

- A. rates
- B. scores
- C. mutant statistics
- D. longitudinal statistics

Ans: B

13. In their study, Allan and Madden explained quantitative methods employed to study behaviors may fail to produce valid results because _____.

- A. errors in survey design can cause skewed results
- B. certain behaviors studied go unnoticed because they are normally socially accepted
- C. researchers often code their quantitative data differently
- D. they have increased reliability

Ans: B

14. Inductive analysis is used when _____.

- A. a research study is based on what is known about a subject
- B. the method of analyzing data is chosen after observation
- C. a mix of research methods will be employed
- D. all of these

Ans: B

15. Which of the following does Bracey suggest is a basic principle of data interpretation using statistics _____.

- A. beware of selectivity
- B. ensure groups are comparable
- C. know differences between rates and scores
- D. all of these

Ans: D

True/False

1. If you can generalize your findings beyond those you collect data from, your research is valid.

Ans: F

2. Many large data sets relating to schools and education are collected by the U.S. government.

Ans: T

3. Qualitative data are typically more valid than quantitative data because researchers are not imposing their own meaning on the data as it is collected.

Ans: F

4. Participants in a quantitative study can also be used as participants in qualitative research.

Ans: T

5. Causal statements are those that attempt to explain what caused something such as student achievement.

Ans: T

6. Quantitative data summarizes the research using numbers, whereas qualitative data does not.

Ans: F

7. The study by Allan and Madden on chilly classroom climates is an example of a qualitative research design.

Ans: T

8. According to Allan and Madden, students in chilly classrooms are subjected to scare tactics and harsh punishments from their instructors.

Ans: F

9. According to Bracey, only one statistic is needed to understand a simple phenomenon.

Ans: F

10. According to Bracey, the most dangerous statistic is known as a mutant statistic.

Ans: T