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VIDEO GUIDE · UNIT 0 · TOPIC 0.2

Correlational Research Design

Watch the lesson

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

NOTES: FILL IN THE BLANKS WHILE YOU WATCH

1. A _____ measures what participants already do or feel, without manipulating variables, and looks for a relationship; it's used when an experiment isn't realistic.
2. _____: we can't tell whether variable A affects variable B or B affects A.
3. _____: another, unmeasured variable could explain the relationship; in experiments, _____ helps control this.
4. A correlation shows two variables are related but cannot establish causation; that requires an _____.
5. Correlational studies still need a testable hypothesis, clear _____, and careful sampling.

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. A researcher asks 300 teens how many hours of screen time they have each day and has them rate their sleep quality. She does not tell anyone how much screen time to have. What type of research design is this?

(A) An experiment, because screen time is the independent variable

(B) An experiment, because sleep quality is measured

(C) A correlational study, because the variables are measured rather than manipulated

(D) A case study, because it focuses on teenagers

2. Researchers find that teens who spend more time with friends report fewer symptoms of depression. Which explanation illustrates the directionality problem?

(A) Family income could affect both time with friends and depression

(B) Teens who are less depressed may seek out friends more often

(C) The sample may not represent all teens

(D) Depression was measured with a questionnaire

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3. A researcher wants to know whether owning a dog causes lower blood pressure. Which design would allow a causal conclusion?

(A) Randomly assign participants to adopt a dog or not, then measure blood pressure

(B) Survey dog owners and non-owners about their blood pressure

(C) Observe dog owners walking in a park

(D) Compare medical records of people who already own dogs

NOTES

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