

## AP\* SOLUTIONS

### Chapter 1 Collecting Data in Reasonable Ways

#### Section 1.1 Exercise Set 1

- 1.1: This is an observational study because the person conducting the study merely recorded (based on a survey) whether or not the boomers sleep with their phones within arm's length, and whether or not people ages 50 to 64 used their phones to take photos.
- 1.2: This is an observational study because the researchers reviewed the history of the children who were participating in the long-term health study. No children were assigned to different experimental groups.
- 1.3: This is an experiment because the researchers assigned different toddlers to experimental conditions (adult played with/talked to the robot or the adult ignored the robot).
- 1.4: This is an observational study because the researchers surveyed adult Americans and drew a conclusion from the survey results; there were no experimental treatments assigned.
- 1.5: This is an experiment because the researchers assigned study participants to one of three treatment groups (meditation, distraction task, or relaxation technique).

#### Section 1.1 Exercise Set 2

- 1.6: This is an observational study based on results of a survey (no nurses were assigned to different experimental conditions).
- 1.7: This is an experiment because the participants (college students) were assigned to different experimental conditions (McDonald's Big Mac coupon or Subway 12-inch Italian BMT coupon).
- 1.8: This is an observational study because the researchers based their conclusions on the results of a survey. There was no assignment to different experimental conditions.
- 1.9: This is an experiment because the researchers assigned study participants to different experimental conditions (garlic supplement group or no garlic supplement group).
- 1.10: This is an experiment because the researchers assigned study participants to different experimental groups (vitamin supplement group or no vitamin supplement group).

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### **Additional Exercises for Section 1.1**

- 1.11: This is an observational study because the researchers observed the proportion of patients who got an infection in the two groups (overnight hospitalization or more than one night hospitalization); there was no assignment of subjects to experimental groups.
- 1.12: This is an experiment because the researcher assigned three of the statistics discussion sections to receive chocolate, and the remaining three did not receive chocolate (the chocolate or lack of chocolate was the experimental group).
- 1.13: This is an experiment because the study participants were assigned to one of the two experimental groups (how much would you pay for the mug or how much would you sell the mug for).
- 1.14: The study described was an experiment because the study participants were asked either the first or second question (the participants were assigned to one of the two experimental groups).

### **Section 1.2 Exercise Set 1**

- 1.15: (a) The group of 716 bicycle fatalities represents a census of the 2008 bicycle fatalities. (b) Because the group of 716 represents a census, the average age of 41 years is a population characteristic.
- 1.16: The sample is the 2,121 children between the ages of 1 and 4, and the population of interest is all children between the ages of 1 and 4.
- 1.17: No, it is not safe to generalize this result to the larger population of U.S. adults. The 6000 people who sent hair samples were not chosen using a random selection process. Rather, they voluntarily sent their hair samples.
- 1.18: There are several reasonable approaches. One is described here. Using the list of all students at the school, write their names on identical but different slips of paper. Thoroughly mix the slips of paper, and select 150 slips. The individuals whose names are on the slips of paper constitute the sample.
- 1.19: (a) The population of interest is all U.S. women. (b) Although the details of the sampling scheme are not presented, the sample size is large (which is generally desirable). However, not all states were represented in the sample; only women from Maryland, Minnesota, Oregon and Pennsylvania were included in the sample. As such, it might be difficult to generalize beyond the population of women in those four states. (c) Given that only women from four states were included in the sample, the sample is not likely to be representative of the population of interest. (d) Selection bias is present because the

selection method excluded women from all states other than Maryland, Minnesota, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

- 1.20: (a) Cluster sampling
- (b) Stratified random sampling
- (c) Convenience sampling
- (d) Simple random sampling
- (e) Systematic sampling

## Section 1.2 Exercise Set 2

- 1.21: The percentages are statistics, because they were computed from the results of a poll conducted by Travelocity.
- 1.22: The group of people surveyed represents a sample, and the percentages quoted are statistics (because they were computed from the sample).
- 1.23: (a) This was a convenience sample because the group of students was an easily available group to form a sample. (b) The estimate of the proportion of students who reported using illegal stimulants should not be generalized to all U.S. college students because this study used a convenience sample by only including students from one psychology class from a small, competitive college.
- 1.24: There are several reasonable approaches. One is described here. Write the names of all students enrolled at the college on identical slips of paper. Thoroughly mix the slips of paper and select 100 of the slips. The students whose names are on the 100 slips of paper constitute the simple random sample.
- 1.25: (a) The population of interest is all people who use public restrooms. (b) Although the details of the sampling scheme are not presented, the sample size is large (which is often desirable). One issue with how the sample was selected is that only people using public restrooms at airports in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Dallas, Miami, and Toronto were included in the sample. (c) This sample is not representative of the population of interest because only those people at airports in these six cities were included in the sample. (d) Selection bias is present because those people using public restrooms at places other than airports in these six cities, and public restrooms in other cities in general, have been excluded from the sample.
- 1.26: (a) Each page in the book already has a unique identifying number (the pages are numbered from 1 to  $N$ , where  $N$  is the last numbered page). Using a random number generating device (a random digits table, a calculator, or statistical software package), randomly select

an integer between 1 and  $N$ . The page that corresponds to that number is the first page selected for the sample. Repeat the process (disregarding repeated page numbers) until the required number of pages has been selected.

(b) Pages that contain exercises are likely to be different (in terms of the number of words) than the main text of the book. As such, it makes sense to stratify based on “text” pages and “exercises” pages. Each page in the book already has a unique identifying number (the pages are numbered from 1 to  $N$ , where  $N$  is the last numbered page). Using a random number generating device (a random digits table, a calculator, or statistical software package), randomly select an integer between 1 and  $N$ . The page that corresponds to that number is the first page selected for the sample. Repeat the process (disregarding repeated page numbers) until the required number of pages of each type (“text” or “exercise”) has been selected.

(c) Each page in the book already has a unique identifying number (the pages are numbered from 1 to  $N$ , where  $N$  is the last numbered page). Using a random number generator, randomly select a starting page from one of the first 30 pages, and then select every 30<sup>th</sup> page after that until the end of the book.

(d) Designating each chapter as a cluster makes sense because each chapter could be representative of the entire book in terms of the number of words per page. Each chapter in the book has a unique identifying number (the chapters are numbered from 1 to  $K$ , where  $K$  is the last chapter in the book). Using a random number generating device (a random digits table, a calculator, or statistical software package), randomly select an integer between 1 and  $K$ . The selected value corresponds to the chapter number. Repeat this chapter selection process until the desired number of clusters (chapters) has been obtained. Count the words on each page in each of the chosen clusters.

### **Additional Exercises for Section 1.2**

- 1.27: The population is all 7000 property owners in this particular rural county. The sample is the 500 property owners selected at random from the 7000 total owners in the county.
- 1.28: The population is all 2010 Toyota Camrys. The sample is the 6 2010 Toyota Camrys selected for the crash testing.
- 1.29: The population is the 5000 bricks in the lot available at the auction. The sample is the 100 bricks chosen for inspection.
- 1.30: The chairman does not understand the power of random selection. Random samples tend to reflect the distribution of voters in the population. Although it is possible to obtain a random sample that is not representative of the population, the risk of getting a sample that is not representative of the population does not depend on what fraction of the population is

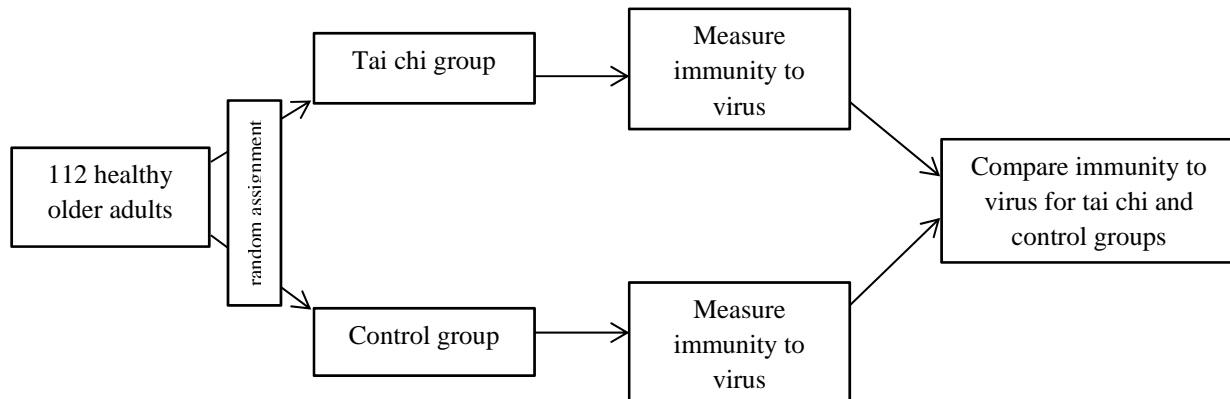
sampled. The random selection process allows us to be confident that the resulting sample will adequately reflect the population, even when the sample consists of only a relatively small fraction of the population.

- 1.31: Bias introduced through the two different sampling methods may have contributed to the different results. The online sample could suffer from voluntary response bias in that perhaps only those who feel very strongly would take the time to go to the website and register their vote. In addition, younger people might be more technologically savvy, and therefore the website might represent the views of younger people (particularly students) who support the parade. The telephone survey telephone responses might represent the view of permanent residents (as students might only use cell phones and not have a local phone number).
- 1.32: In stratified random sampling, having strata that are relatively homogeneous (relative to the expected heterogeneity between strata) based on a characteristic of interest to the study is important. Therefore, of the three proposed schemes, the one that would result in roughly homogeneous strata is Scheme 2. Scheme 2 is appropriate because college students as a group are likely to be similar to each other in their opinions regarding a sales tax increase. Similarly, nonstudents who work full time will likely be similar to each other, and nonstudents who do not work full time will likely be similar to each other. The other schemes would not be suitable because the strata would likely not be homogeneous in terms of attitudes toward a sales tax increase.

### **Section 1.3 Exercise Set 1**

- 1.33: Random assignment allows the researcher to create groups that are equivalent, so that the subjects in each experimental group are as much alike as possible. This ensures that the experiment does not favor one experimental condition (playing Unreal Tournament 2004 or Tetris) over another.
- 1.34: (a) Allowing subject participants to choose which group they want to be in could introduce systematic differences between the two experimental conditions (tai chi group or control group), resulting in potential confounding. Those who would choose to do tai chi might, in some way, be different from those who would choose the control group. We would not know if differences in immunity between the two groups were due to the tai chi, or due to some inherent differences in the subjects who chose their experimental groups. (b) Because the purpose of this experiment is to determine whether the tai chi treatment has an effect on immunity to a virus, a control group is needed to provide a baseline against which the treatment group can be compared to determine if the treatment has an effect.

1.35:



- 1.36: (a) The attending nurse was responsible for administering medication after judging the degree of pain and nausea, so the researchers did not want the nurse's personal beliefs about the different surgical procedures to influence measurements. (b) Because the children who had the surgery could easily determine whether the surgical procedure was laparoscopic repair or open repair based on the type of incision.
- 1.37: Blocking could be incorporated into this experiment by first dividing the children into two groups based on gender. Write the name of each of the 60 boys on identical slips of paper, with one name per slip. Place the slips of paper in a box and thoroughly mix the slips. Draw out slips one at a time until 30 slips have been drawn. The names on these 30 slips constitute the boys who are randomly assigned to the laparoscopic surgery treatment group. The remaining 30 boys are assigned to the open repair group. Given that there are 29 girls available for this study, the two treatment groups will have different sizes (15 and 14, respectively). As such, the selection of the group (the group with 15 girls for the group with 14 girls) that receives the laparoscopic surgery or the open repair should be random. To achieve that random assignment, toss a fair coin. If the coin lands heads-up, the group with 15 girls will receive the laparoscopic surgery and the group with 14 girls will receive the open repair. If the coin lands tails-up, the group with 14 girls will receive the laparoscopic surgery and the group with 15 girls will receive open repair. To assign the girls to the appropriate treatment group, write the name of each of the 29 girls on identical slips of paper, with one name per slip. Place the slips of paper in a box and thoroughly mix the slips. Draw out slips one at a time until 15 slips have been drawn. The names on these slips constitute the girls who are randomly assigned to one of the treatment groups as determined by the coin toss described above. The remaining 14 girls are assigned to the other treatment group.

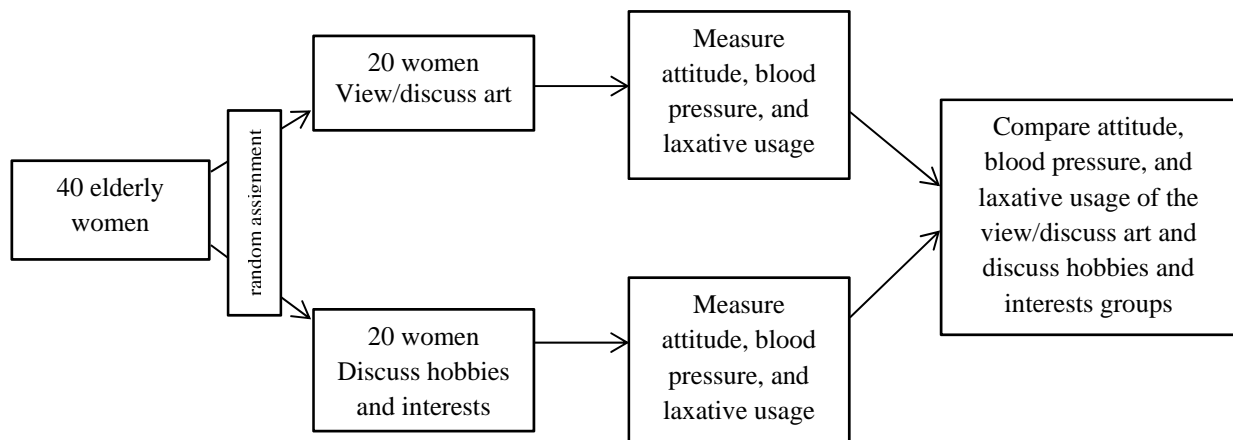
- 1.38: There are several possible approaches. One is described here. Write each subject's name on identical slips of paper. Mix the slips of paper thoroughly and draw out slips one at a time. The names on the first 15 slips are assigned to the experimental condition of listening to a Mozart piano sonata for 24 minutes. The names on the next 15 slips are assigned to the experimental condition of listening to popular music for the same length of time. The remaining 15 names are assigned to the relaxation with no music experimental condition.
- 1.39: (1) Do ethnic group and gender influence the type of care that a heart patient receives? (2) The experimental conditions are the gender and race of the "patient" the doctor is shown. (3) The response variable is the type of care recommended for the heart patient. (4) The experimental units are the 720 primary care doctors at meetings of the American College of Physicians or the American Academy of Family Physicians. It is not clear how the physicians were chosen. (5) Yes, the design incorporates random assignment of doctors to view one of the four different videos through rolling a four-sided die. (6) No, there was no control group, as all the doctors were shown actions of some race or gender. The idea of a control group does not apply in this study. (7) There is no indication that the study includes blinding. There cannot be blinding in this study because the doctors know the gender and race of the "patients" they get.

### Section 1.3 Exercise Set 2

1.40: Random assignment allows the researcher to create groups that are equivalent, so that the subjects in each experimental group are as much alike as possible. This ensures that the experiment does not favor one experimental condition (distraction or no distraction) over another.

1.41: (a) Allowing subject participants to choose which group they want to be in could introduce systematic differences between the two experimental conditions (viewing and discussing art group or hobbies and interests group), resulting in potential confounding. Those who chose to view and discuss art might, in some way, be different from those who chose to discuss their hobbies and interests. We would not know if differences in attitude, blood pressure, or constipation between the two groups were due to the art discussions, or due to some inherent differences in the subjects who chose their experimental groups. (b) Because the purpose of this experiment is to determine whether viewing and discussing art has an effect on immunity to a virus, a control group is needed to provide a baseline against which the treatment group can be compared to determine if the treatment has an effect.

1.42:





- 1.43: Blinding of both the dog handlers and experimental observers is important so that the dogs are not intentionally or otherwise guided in determining which patients have cancer. The blinding guarantees that the dogs do not rely on any information other than the patient's breath.
- 1.44: There are several possible approaches. One is described here. Write each subject's name on identical slips of paper. Mix the slips of paper thoroughly and draw out slips one at a time. The names on the first 20 slips are assigned to one type of keyboard (experimental condition), and the remaining 20 are assigned to the other type of keyboard (the other experimental condition).
- 1.45: Blocking could be incorporated into this experiment by first dividing the volunteers into two groups based on age (20-30 years and 30-40 years). Write the name of each of the 20 volunteers who are between 20 and 30 years old on identical slips of paper, with one name per slip. Place the slips of paper in a box and thoroughly mix the slips. Draw out slips one at a time until 10 slips have been drawn. The names on these 10 slips constitute the volunteers who are randomly assigned to one type of keyboard (one treatment group). The remaining 10 volunteers are assigned to the other type of keyboard (the other treatment group). The procedure is similar for the volunteers in the 30 to 40 year old age group. Write the name of each of the 20 volunteers on identical slips of paper, with one name per slip. Place the slips of paper in a box and thoroughly mix the slips. Draw out slips one at a time until 10 slips have been drawn. The names on these slips constitute the volunteers who are randomly assigned to the one type of keyboard (one treatment group). The remaining 10 volunteers are assigned to the other type of keyboard (the other treatment group).
- 1.46: Was there a control group in which there were identical sheets of paper with no words written on them? Was there any random assignment of experimental units to treatment groups? How were the experimental units selected? How many water bottles were used in the study? Were the water bottles identical? How many bottles of water were used? What measurements were made on the water? Were measurements made both before and after the words were applied to the bottle? Who took the measurements? Was the person taking the measurements blinded to the presence or absence of words on the pieces of paper?

### **Additional Exercises for Section 1.3**

- 1.47: The experimental conditions were the presence or absence of music with a vocal component. The response is the time required to complete the surgical procedure.
- 1.48: (a) Some surgical procedures are more complex and require a greater degree of concentration; music with a vocal component might be more distracting when the surgical procedure is more complex. (b) The temperature of the room might affect the comfort of the surgeon; if the surgeon is too hot or too cold, she or he might be uncomfortable, and

therefore more easily distracted by the vocal component. (c) If the music is too loud, the surgeon might be distracted and unable to focus, regardless of the presence or absence of the vocal component. If the music is too soft, the surgeon might try to concentrate on listening to the vocal component, and therefore pay more attention to the music rather than the surgical procedure.

1.49: Random assignment of surgeons to music condition is important because there might be something inherently different about surgeons who want no vocals versus those who do want vocals. Random assignment eliminates the risk of a systematic bias such as this affecting the results of the study.

1.50: This experiment could not have been double-blind because the surgeon would know whether or not there was a vocal component to the music.

1.51: (a) The possible effects of the potentially confounding variable stature (height) were addressed by blocking because each treatment was tried in each block.

(b) The possible effects of the potentially confounding variable which hand was used were addressed by direct control because the hand that was used was fixed (all subjects used their right hand).

1.52: Yes, the random assignment of subjects to experimental groups has been successful in creating groups that are similar in age. Both the LR and OR groups have similar maximum ages, and the LR group does have a few children with slightly lower ages than the OR group. Overall, however, the LR and OR groups are quite similar with respect to ages.

1.53: (a) Probably not, because the judges might not believe that Denny's food is as good as other restaurants. (b) Experiments are often blinded in this way to eliminate preconceptions about particular experimental treatments.

### Section 1.4 Exercise Set 1

1.54: It is not reasonable to conclude that being raised with two or more animals is the cause of the observed lower allergy rate. This was an observational study, so cause-and-effect conclusions cannot be drawn.

1.55: (a) It is not reasonable to conclude that watching *Oprah* causes a decrease in cravings for fattening foods. This was an observational study, so cause-and-effect conclusions cannot be drawn. (b) It is not reasonable to generalize the results of this survey to all women in the United States because not all women watch daytime talk shows. It is not reasonable to generalize these results to all women who watch daytime talk shows because not all women who watch daytime shows access DietSmart.com. If there was no random selection of survey participants (which is often the case with surveys found on websites), then the results might be biased due to voluntary response of participants.

1.56: (a) In order to be able to attribute changes in endurance to the treatments, the researcher would have had to assign the nine cyclists at random to one of the three experimental conditions (chocolate milk, Gatorade, or Endurox).

(b) It would not have been possible to blind the subjects in this experiment because they would know which of the three experimental conditions they were consuming (chocolate milk, Gatorade, or Endurox).

1.57:

**Study 1:**

Question 1: This is an observational study.

Question 2: Yes, random selection was used.

Question 3: No, this was not an experiment so there were no experimental groups.

Question 4: No, because this was not an experiment, cause-and-effect cannot be concluded.

Question 5: It is reasonable to generalize to the population of students at this particular large college.

**Study 2:**

Question 1: This study was an experiment.

Question 2: Random selection was not used.

Question 3: There was no random assignment to experimental conditions (the grouping was based on gender).

Question 4: No, the conclusion is not appropriate because of confounding of gender and treatment (women ate pecans, and men did not eat pecans).

Question 5: It is not reasonable to generalize to a larger population.

**Study 3:**

Question 1: This is an observational study.

Question 2: There was no random selection.

Question 3: There was no random assignment to experimental groups.

Question 4: No, the conclusion is not appropriate because this was an observational study, and therefore cause-and-effect conclusions cannot be drawn.

Question 5: We cannot generalize to any larger population beyond the 200 volunteers.

#### **Study 4:**

Question 1: This is an experiment.

Question 2: There was no random selection from some population.

Question 3: Yes, there was random assignment to experimental groups.

Question 4: Yes, because this was a simple comparative experiment with random assignment of subjects to experimental groups. We can draw cause-and-effect conclusions.

Question 5: We cannot generalize to a larger population because there was no random selection from some population.

#### **Study 5:**

Question 1: This is an experiment.

Question 2: Yes, there was random selection from students enrolled at a large college.

Question 3: Yes, random assignment of subjects to experimental groups was used.

Question 4: Yes, because this was a simple comparative experiment with random assignment of subjects to experimental groups. We can draw cause-and-effect conclusions.

Question 5: Due to the random selection of students, we can generalize conclusions from this study to the population of all students enrolled at the large college.

### **Section 1.4 Exercise Set 2**

1.58: (a) Random selection from the population of affluent Americans is required. (b) No, because the population sampled from was affluent Americans.

1.59: It might be that people who live in the South have a less healthy diet and exercise less than those in other parts of the country. As a result, the higher percentage of Southerners with high blood pressure might have nothing to do with living in the South.

1.60: Random assignment ensures that the experiment does not favor one experimental condition (talking on the phone, not talking on the phone) over another. If the person crossing the virtual street was on the phone the first 10 crossings, and not on the phone the last 10

crossings, we wouldn't know if any difference between the treatments was due to the phone use or due to the person being either more or less aware of the surroundings for the last 10 crossings, for example.

1.61:

**Study 1:**

Question 1: This is an observational study.

Question 2: No, there was no random selection from a population.

Question 3: No, there was no random assignment to experimental groups.

Question 4: No, the conclusion that you can “strengthen your marriage with prayer” is not appropriate. There was no experiment conducted, so a cause-and-effect conclusion cannot be drawn.

Question 5: No, it is not reasonable to generalize conclusions from this study to some larger population because this was a voluntary response sample.

**Study 2:**

Question 1: This is an observational study.

Question 2: Yes, there was random selection from the population of AAUW members.

Question 3: There was no random assignment to experimental groups (this is not an experiment).

Question 4: No, the conclusion that you can “strengthen your marriage with prayer” is not appropriate. There was no experiment conducted, so a cause-and-effect conclusion cannot be drawn.

Question 5: Due to random selection, it is reasonable to generalize the conclusions from this study to the population of AAUW members.

**Study 3:**

Question 1: This was an observational study.

Question 2: No, there was no random selection from a population.

Question 3: No, there was no random assignment to experimental groups (this was an observational study, not an experiment).

Question 4: No, the conclusion that you can “strengthen your marriage with prayer” is not appropriate. Since this was an observational study, a cause-and-effect conclusion cannot be drawn.

Question 5: It is not reasonable to generalize conclusions from this study to a larger population because there was no random selection of study participants.

### **Additional Exercises for Section 1.4**

1.62: (a) This was most likely an observational study. (b) It is not reasonable to conclude that pushing a shopping cart causes people to be less likely to purchase junk food because the results of observational studies cannot be used to draw cause-and-effect conclusions.

1.63: In order to determine if the conclusions implied by the headline are appropriate, I would need to know if dieters were randomly assigned to the experimental conditions (large fork or small fork). In order to generalize to the population of dieters, I would also want to know if the study participants were randomly selected from the population of dieters.

1.64: This is an experiment.

1.65: There was no random selection from some population.

1.66: Yes, there was random assignment to experimental groups (portrait orientation or landscape orientation).

1.67: Yes, it is reasonable to draw the conclusion that reasoning using information displayed on a small screen is improved by turning the screen to landscape orientation because this was an experiment in which there was random assignment of subjects to experimental groups.

1.68: No, it is not reasonable to generalize the conclusions from this study to some larger population because there was no random selection of study participants from a population.

### **Chapter 1: Are You Ready to Move On? Chapter 1 Review Exercises**

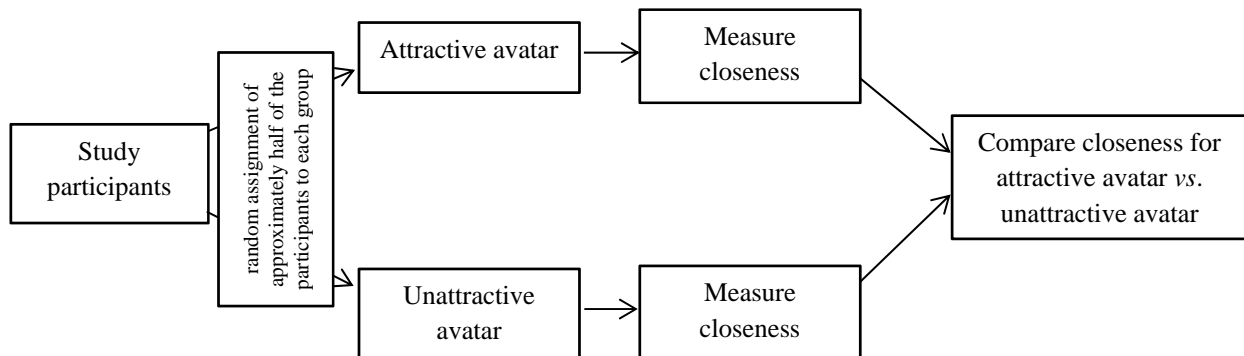
1.69: (a) This is an experiment due to the random assignment of subjects to experimental conditions (the five different rooms). (b) This is an observational study because there was no random assignment of subjects to experimental conditions; the researchers merely recorded what they observed on the MySpace pages. (c) This is an observational study because there was no random assignment of subjects to experimental conditions; the researchers merely recorded the responses of the survey participants. (d) This is an experiment because of the random assignment of study participants (the adults with back pain) to experimental conditions (the four different treatments).

1.70: The population of interest is the 15,000 students at the college. The 200 students who were interviewed constitute the sample.

- 1.71: (a) 84% is a population characteristic. (b) 24.1 years is a statistic. (c) 22% is a population characteristic. (d) 6.4 days is a statistic. (e) 63 hours is a statistic.
- 1.72: (1) The study participants were volunteers and were not randomly selected. (2) The study participants were all students at Texas Women's University. (3) The study participants were all women (because they are students at a Women's university).
- 1.73: The council president should assign a unique identifying number to each of the names on the petition, numbered from 1 to 500. On identical slips of paper, write the numbers 1 to 500, with each number on a single slip of paper. Thoroughly mix the slips of paper and select 30 numbers. The 30 numbers correspond to the unique numbers assigned to names on the petition. These 30 names constitute the sample.
- 1.74: (a) (1) The patients are the population of interest. (2) The study description indicates no random selection of participants, so it does not appear as if the sample was selected in a reasonable way. (3) No, the sample is not likely to be representative of the population of interest. The sample consisted of only undergraduate students, so even if there was random selection of participants, the study results could not be generalized to the population of all patients. (4) It is likely that this study design is affected by selection bias because only undergraduate students were included in the study, thus systematically excluding all non-undergraduate students from the population of interest. (b) No, the stated conclusions are not reasonable because there was no random selection of study participants, and the study suffers from selection bias.
- 1.75: (a) Write the names of the students at the high school on identical slips of paper, with one name written on each slip of paper. Thoroughly mix the slips and select slips of paper one at a time until the desired number of names has been selected. The names on the slips of paper constitute the students who are selected for the sample.
- (b) Using the school student roster, randomly pick (using a random number generator) an integer between 1 and 50. The student in that position in the roster is the first student selected for the sample. Then select every 50<sup>th</sup> student after that until the end of the student roster has been reached.
- (c) This sampling plan would result in a stratified random sample. By definition, a stratified random sample is one in which the population is divided into non-overlapping subgroups (strata), and then a simple random sample is taken from each subgroup. A cluster sample is one in which the population is divided into groups (the clusters), and then a random sample of clusters is selected in which all individuals in the clusters are included in the sample.
- 1.76: Without random assignment of the study participants to experimental condition, confounding could impact the conclusions of the study. For example, people who would

choose an attractive avatar might be more outgoing and willing to engage than someone who would choose an unattractive avatar.

1.77:



- 1.78: (a) By randomly selecting the 852 children to be in one experimental group (the book group), the remaining children, by default, are in the control group. (b) The control group allows the experimenter to assess how the response variable behaves when the treatment is not used. This provides a baseline against which the treatment groups can be compared to determine if the treatment has an effect. In this case, the researcher can determine whether children given the reading books have better school performance, as measured by a reading test.
- 1.79: Blocking could be incorporated into this experiment by first dividing the children into two groups based on gender. Write the name of each of the 700 girls on identical slips of paper, with one name per slip. Place the slips of paper in a box and thoroughly mix the slips. Draw out slips one at a time until 350 slips have been drawn. The names on these 350 slips constitute the girls who are randomly assigned to the book group (treatment group). The remaining 350 girls are assigned to the activity/puzzle books group (control group). The procedure is similar for the boys. Write the name of each of the 600 boys on identical slips of paper, with one name per slip. Place the slips of paper in a box and thoroughly mix the slips. Draw out slips one at a time until 300 slips have been drawn. The names on these 300 slips constitute the boys who are randomly assigned to the book group (treatment group). The remaining 300 boys are assigned to the activity/puzzle books group (control group).
- 1.80: (a) It seems as if the alternate assignment to the experimental groups (large serving bowls, small serving bowls) would tend to produce groups that are similar. People who arrive to the party at approximately the same time might, in some way, be similar to each other, so dividing them into the different experimental groups as described would tend to make the two groups similar to each other. (b) Blinding ensures that individuals do not let personal



beliefs influence their measurements. The research assistant that weighed the plates and estimated the calorie content of the food might (intentionally or not) have let her or his personal beliefs influence the estimate of the calorie content of the food on the plate.

- 1.81: There are several possible approaches. One is described here. Write each subject's name on identical slips of paper. Mix the slips of paper thoroughly and draw out slips one at a time. The names on the first 10 slips are assigned to the first hand drying method. The names on the next 10 slips are assigned to the second hand drying method. The remaining 10 names are assigned to the third hand drying method.
- 1.82: (a) (1) The experiment is designed to answer the question "Does using hand gestures help children learn math?" (2) The two experimental conditions are using hand gestures and not using hand gestures. (3) The response variable is the number correct on the six-problem test. (4) The experimental units are the 128 children in the study; they were selected because they were the children who answered all six questions on the pretest incorrectly. (5) Yes, the children were assigned randomly to one of the two experimental groups. (6) Yes, the control group is the experimental condition of not using any hand gestures. (7) There was no blinding and, indeed, it would not be possible to include blinding of subjects in this experiment (the children would know whether or not they were using hand gestures), and there is no need to blind the person recording the response because the test was graded with each answer correct or incorrect, so there is no subjectivity in recording the responses. (b) It seems as if the conclusions are reasonable because the subjects were assigned to the treatment groups at random.
- 1.83: (a) Yes, it is reasonable to generalize the stated conclusion to all 18-year-olds with a publically accessible MySpace web profile because the profiles were selected at random from all MySpace web profiles of 18-year-olds. (b) No, it is not reasonable to generalize the stated conclusion to all 18-year-old MySpace users because those users without publically accessible profiles were not included in the random selection process. (c) No, it is not reasonable to generalize the stated conclusion to all MySpace users because the study only included 18-year-old MySpace users.
- 1.84: (a) No, the 60 games selected were the 20 most popular (by sales) for each of three different gaming systems. The study excluded the games that were not in the top 20 most popular (by sales). (b) It is not reasonable to generalize the researcher's conclusions to all video games due to selection bias (there was a systematic exclusion of those games not in the top 20 most popular (by sales)).
- 1.85: (a) The study described is not an experiment because there were no experimental conditions to which study participants were randomly assigned. (b) No, it is not reasonable to conclude that physical activity is the cause of the observed difference in body fat

percentage. This was an observational study, and cause-and-effect conclusions cannot be drawn.

1.86:

**Study 1:**

Question 1: The study described is an observational study.

Question 2: No, there was no random selection from a population.

Question 3: No, there was no random assignment to experimental groups.

Question 4: No, it is not reasonable to conclude that taking calcium supplements is the cause of the increased heart attack risk.

Question 5: No, it is not reasonable to generalize conclusions from this study to a larger population because there was no random selection from a larger population.

**Study 2:**

Question 1: The study described is an observational study.

Question 2: Yes, there was random selection from the population of people living in Minneapolis who receive Social Security.

Question 3: No, there was no random assignment of subjects to experimental groups.

Question 4: No, it is not reasonable to conclude that taking calcium supplements is the cause of the increased heart attack risk.

Question 5: Yes, it is reasonable to generalize the results of this study to the population of people living in Minneapolis who receive Social Security.

**Study 3:**

Question 1: The study described is an experiment.

Question 2: Yes, there was random selection from the population of people living in Minneapolis who receive Social Security.

Question 3: No, there was no random assignment of subjects to experimental groups.

Question 4: No, it is not reasonable to conclude that taking calcium supplements is the cause of the increased risk of heart attack due to confounding and the lack of random assignment of subjects to experimental conditions. The participants in this study who did not have a previous history of heart problems were given the calcium supplement, and

those with a history of heart problems were not given the supplement. It is not possible to determine the role of the calcium supplement because only those study participants who did not have a history of heart problems were given the supplement.

Question 5: It is possible to generalize the results from this study to the population of all people living in Minneapolis who receive Social Security. However, it is unclear (due to the confounding described in Question (4) what the conclusion would be.

**Study 4:**

Question 1: The study described is an experiment because there was random assignment of subjects to experimental conditions.

Question 2: No, there was no random selection from some larger population.

Question 3: Yes, there was random assignment of study participants to experimental groups.

Question 4: Yes, it is reasonable to conclude that taking calcium supplements is the cause of the increased risk of heart attack.

Question 5: No, it is not reasonable to generalize conclusions from this study to some larger population because of the lack of random selection of study participants from a population.