

PsychSim 5: WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS STUDY?

Name: _____

Section: _____

Date: _____

In this activity you will review the basic methodology used in psychological research, practice applying research methodology to new situations, and consider specific pitfalls that could reduce the value of the research findings.

Thinking About Psychological Research

- What are the three types of research methods and what are their goals?

1. Type:

Goals:

2. Type:

Goals:

3. Type:

Goals:

Experimental Control

- What is the benefit of conducting an experiment, rather than using a different type of study?

Study 1: Vocabulary Growth

- What is the broad goal of the study?
- What is wrong with the study?
- In your own words, describe the single most important flaw in this study's design or interpretation.
- In your own words, describe how the study could be improved to eliminate the weaknesses (or at least the major flaw).

Study 2: Learning to Share

- What is the broad goal of the study?
- What is wrong with the study?
- In your own words, describe the single most important flaw in this study's design or interpretation.
- In your own words, describe how the study could be improved to eliminate the weaknesses (or at least the major flaw).

Study 3: Sleep and Academic Performance

- What is the broad goal of the study?
- What is wrong with the study?
- In your own words, describe the single most important flaw in this study's design or interpretation.
- In your own words, describe how the study could be improved to eliminate the weaknesses (or at least the major flaw).

Study 4: Language Instruction

- What is the broad goal of the study?
- What is wrong with the study?
- In your own words, describe the single most important flaw in this study's design or interpretation.
- In your own words, describe how the study could be improved to eliminate the weaknesses (or at least the major flaw).