Chapter 2

1. When the results of an experiment can be applied to real-world conditions, that experiment is said to have:

a) Criterion validity
b) Ecological validity
c) Content validity
d) Factorial validity

The correct answer is b) Ecological validity
Feedback: For a research study to possess ecological validity, the methods, materials and setting of the study must approximate the real-life situation that is under investigation

2. A variable manipulated by a researcher is known as:

a) An independent variable
b) A dependent variable
c) A confounding variable
d) A discrete variable

The correct answer is a) An independent variable
Feedback: An independent variable (or predictor variable) is a variable that is thought to be the cause of some effect. This term is usually used in experimental research to denote a variable that the experimenter has manipulated.

3. A frequency distribution in which low scores are most frequent (i.e. bars on the graph are highest on the **left** hand side) is said to be:

a) Leptokurtic
b) Platykurtic
c) Positively skewed
d) Negatively skewed

The correct answer is c) Positively skewed
Feedback: In a positively skewed distribution the frequent scores are clustered at the lower end and the tail points towards the higher or more positive scores.

4. A frequency distribution in which high scores are most frequent (i.e. bars on the graph are highest on the **right** hand side) is said to be:

a) Negatively skewed
b) Positively skewed
c) Leptokurtic
d) Platykurtic

The correct answer is a) Negatively skewed

Feedback: In a negatively skewed distribution the frequent scores are clustered at the higher end and the tail points towards the lower or more negative scores.

5. Under a null hypothesis, a sample value yields a *p*-value of .015. Which of the following statements is true?

a) This finding is statistically significant at the .01 level of significance.
b) This finding is statistically significant at the .05 level of significance.
c) This finding is statistically significant at the .001 level of significance.
d) This finding is not statistically significant.

The correct answer is b) This finding is statistically significant at the .05 level of significance.