



# NCE<sup>Q&As</sup>

National Counselor Examination

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### QUESTION 1

The most valuable type of research is the:

- A. correlational study
- B. experiment
- C. survey
- D. descriptive narrative

Correct Answer: B

The experiment is the most powerful research method because it is the only design that examines a single factor's effect on a particular behavior. Therefore, it is the only method where a direct cause and effect relationship can be established. While correlational studies can show if 2 variables are related and how strong the relationship is, it is important to remember correlation does not equal causation.

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### QUESTION 2

A counselor sets her monthly fees for consultation on a job-by-job basis. Which of the following reinforcement schedules is this an example of?

- A. variable ratio
- B. fixed ratio
- C. fixed interval
- D. variable interval

Correct Answer: A

A variable ratio schedule is when a reward occurs after an unpredictable amount of responses and typically provides a high rate of response. The counselor's rate is unpredictable from one job to the next. A fixed ratio schedule occurs when a response is reinforced after a set number of responses. Fixed interval schedules reinforce the response only after a certain amount of time has passed. Variable interval schedules reinforce the response after an unpredictable amount of time has gone by.

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### QUESTION 3

You have just launched a successful therapy group, and want to promote it to engage new clients so they, too, can benefit. You have asked your current therapy clients to offer an anonymous testimonial, telling others how useful it has been.

From an ethical standpoint, this is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. prohibited under any circumstances



- B. allowed since it is a successful group that would benefit future clients that may join
- C. allowed, only if they sign a voluntary testimonial release
- D. prohibited unless they sign a voluntary testimonial release, use a pseudo-name and do not provide a photo

Correct Answer: A

The ACA Code of Ethics outlines that testimonials from clients, former clients or any other person vulnerable to undue influence is prohibited.

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#### QUESTION 4

Jeremy, during intake, told you that he really enjoys his job as a watch repair man. His strong Interest Inventory would probably indicate a high score in which of the following?

- A. Investigative
- B. Conventional
- C. Realistic
- D. Social

Correct Answer: C

Those who score high in the realistic category enjoy working with machines. They are doers. Those who have high scores for investigative are thinkers, conventional are organizers, and social are helpers.

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#### QUESTION 5

A client is 35. She is married, has two kids and is working on a big promotion at work. She is focused entirely on her family and career. Which of Erickson's Stages of Psychosocial Development is she in?

- A. Intimacy vs. Isolation
- B. Generativity vs. Stagnation
- C. Integrity vs. Despair
- D. Industry vs. Inferiority

Correct Answer: B

In the Generativity vs. Stagnation stage, people are focused on contributing to the next generation (the client produced 2 offspring) and to society (the client's meaningful career). Industry vs. Inferiority occurs during the elementary school years and Integrity vs. Despair during late adulthood. It is not Intimacy vs. Isolation because she has gone beyond sharing her life with one other person.