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General Psychology

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15, February 2020

Chapter Two

1. Inductive reasoning makes specific observations and then draws a general conclusion.

For example, I usually get out of my class at 5 pm and get to my house at 7 pm, so I assume that if today I get out at 5 pm I will be home by 7 pm. Deductive reasoning starts with a hypothesis that is then tested or used to reach a logical conclusion. For example most aquatic animals swim to survive, fish are aquatic animals, therefore they swim to survive. But sometimes an “incorrect hypothesis may lead to a logical but incorrect conclusion”.

4. A theory a set of statements or ideas that are devised explanations for observed phenomena. For example, The big bang theory is a theory developed by scientists to explain the creation of the universe, their reasoning is the remaining cosmic background radiation found in our universe is the evidence for their theory that the universe was formed by a big explosion. A hypothesis is a prediction that can be tested about how something will behave if the idea is correct, it tends to be worded as an if-then statement. For example: If you drink a lot of water on a hot summer day, then you will stay hydrated and not suffer from dehydration.

18. One advantage of clinical case study is that they focused on a very small number of participants that can have a big amount of insight into the case of study. The

disadvantage of this is that the small group of people being studied are unique in their aspect and are not like most ordinary people, and this can make it difficult to generalize their observation of a larger population.

6. In psychology class, there are 40 students (population) and each and one of them have many similar characteristics. The professor wants to conduct an experiment using the students, he randomly selects 10 students(sample) to conduct the experiment. For more simplicity, the population is the overall amount of students in this case that could be tested and the sample are just a small portion taken from the population. Another example, imagine a pie of pizza, the pie contains eight slices, the eight slices are the total amount of slice contained by a pie of pizza, therefore when you take a slice that slice picked becomes a sample.
7. A positive correlation is a relationship between the variables when a variable increases so does the other increase and vice versa. For example: the more you run the more endurance you develop. A negative correlation means that the variable moves in the opposite direction. For example: the more you sleep the less homework you complete and vice versa, the more homework you complete the less sleep you get.

