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Final Exam

Chapter 1: Topic I chose is The Scientific Method

The Scientific Method consists of seven steps that can help navigate and identify your research process. This process can aid in keeping your study organized and very straightforward. These steps included in the Scientific Method are as follows:

1. Identify a Topic
2. Find, Read and Evaluate Past Research
3. Refine Topic and Develop a Hypothesis
4. Design the Study
5. Carry out the Study
6. Analyze the Data
7. Communicate Results

Though these seven steps are not difficult to understand at their core, they provided a necessary and clear outline as to the purpose of our study and how to successfully navigate and ensure we are going into our thesis with a scientific approach. One step I found to be the most helpful was Step 3, Refining your topic and developing a hypothesis. I will say, I am currently revisiting my hypotheses as I get deeper into my research and have found narrowing down and zoning in on what I am trying to convey, has been a challenge.

Chapter 2: Topic I chose is Primary research source and secondary research source.

The primary research source is information that has been created at the time of data collection. An example of this would be an interview given to a particular person and then recorded by the person giving the interview. Another example would be an observation that was conducted at the time of the event being studied. Primary research sources are first-hand information and are therefore the most reliable source when it comes to research.

Secondary research sources are interpretations of primary research sources. In secondary research, it is understood that its perception is broader in nature as it is dependent on the findings of a primary research source.

Chapter 3: Topic I chose is Content validity.

Content validity is the degree to which to measure the variable. It is pivotal in research because it ensures that the data collected represents the construct. When we consider what this means for our research, it can frame how we choose to collect the data and how we choose to use the data that has been collected. Content validity can provide the necessary framework that can shape our data in such a way that affords us the opportunity to be able to interpret and draw conclusions based on what we have collected.

Chapter 4: Topic I chose is Naturalistic Versus Contrived Observations

When we consider how research is done, observations are at the forefront of it all. It is during those observations that the researcher can gather all necessary data in order to be able to draw a conclusion or an inference on the subject they are studying. Naturalistic observation is a method in which the researcher observes the individual in its natural environment. In doing so, it is expected to get the most honest and genuine responses since the subject is in a comfortable environment. Contrived observation is a method in which the researcher has control of the environment in which the subject is being observed. This type of observation is more controlled and can yield results that are more precise.

Chapter 6: Topic I chose is Inferential Versus Descriptive Statistics

Inferential statistics is the use of a sample in order to make a conclusion about a population. In order to accomplish this, the data that was collected is then used to test hypotheses. The use of probability theory is apparent in inferential statistics in order to test if a hypothesis is true. Inferential statistics uses calculations of mean, median and mode in order better illustrate its data. Descriptive statistics uses the description of the characteristic of a sample to be its guiding factor.