

1. Which of the following groups would be *best* served by the development of a scientific base for nursing practice?
 - A) Nursing administrators
 - B) Practicing nurses
 - C) Nurses' clients
 - D) Health care policymakers

2. An especially important goal for the nursing profession is to:
 - A) Conduct research to better understand the context of nursing practice
 - B) Establish a base of evidence for practice through disciplined research
 - C) Document the role nursing serves in society
 - D) Establish research priorities

3. Which of the following would *not* be a current priority for clinical nursing research?
 - A) Pain management
 - B) Health promotion
 - C) Nurses' personalities
 - D) Prevention of illness

4. Most nursing studies before 1950 focused on:
 - A) Client satisfaction
 - B) Clinical interventions
 - C) Health promotion
 - D) Nursing education

5. To those espousing a naturalistic paradigm, a fundamental belief is that:
 - A) A fixed reality exists in nature for humans to understand
 - B) The nature of reality has changed over time
 - C) Reality is multiply constructed and multiply interpreted by humans
 - D) Reality cannot be studied empirically

6. To those espousing a positivist paradigm, a fundamental belief is that:
 - A) The researcher is objective and independent of those being studied.
 - B) The researcher cannot interact with those being studied.
 - C) The researcher instructs those being studied to be objective in providing information.
 - D) The distance between the researcher and those being researched is minimized to enhance the interactive process.

7. The traditional scientific method is *not* characterized by which of the following attributes?
- A) Control over external factors
 - B) Systematic measurement and observation of natural phenomena
 - C) Testing of hunches deduced from theory or prior research
 - D) Emphasis on a holistic view of a phenomenon, studied in a rich context
8. Empiricism refers to:
- A) Making generalizations from specific observations
 - B) Deducing specific predictions from generalizations
 - C) Gathering evidence about real-world phenomena through the senses
 - D) Verifying the assumptions on which the study was based
9. A hallmark of the scientific method is that it is:
- A) Rigorous
 - B) Holistic
 - C) Systematic
 - D) Flexible
10. Which of the following limits the power of the scientific method to answer questions about human life?
- A) The necessity of departing from traditional beliefs
 - B) The difficulty of accurately measuring complex human traits
 - C) The difficulty of gaining the cooperation of humans as study participants
 - D) The shortage of theories about human behavior
11. The classic scientific method has its intellectual roots in:
- A) Positivism
 - B) Determinism
 - C) Constructivism
 - D) Empiricism
12. One of the criticisms of the scientific method is that it is overly:
- A) Logical
 - B) Deterministic
 - C) Empirical
 - D) Reductionist

13. Naturalistic qualitative research typically:
- A) Involves deductive processes
 - B) Attempts to control the research context to better understand the phenomenon being studied
 - C) Involves gathering narrative, subjective materials
 - D) Focuses on the idiosyncrasies of those being studied
14. Quantitative and qualitative research do *not* share which of the following features?
- A) A desire to understand the true state of human affairs
 - B) Roots in the 19th century thought of such philosophers as Newton and Locke
 - C) A reliance on external evidence collected through the senses
 - D) Utility to the nursing profession
15. A descriptive question that a qualitative researcher might ask is:
- A) What are the dimensions of this phenomenon?
 - B) What is the average intensity of this phenomenon?
 - C) How frequently does this phenomenon occur?
 - D) What is the average duration of this phenomenon?
16. A researcher wants to investigate the effect of patients' body position on blood pressure. The study would most likely be:
- A) Qualitative
 - B) Quantitative
 - C) Either quantitative or qualitative (researcher preference)
 - D) Insufficient information to determine
17. A researcher wants to study the process by which people make decisions about seeking treatment for infertility. The researcher's paradigmatic orientation most likely is:
- A) Positivism
 - B) Determinism
 - C) Empiricism
 - D) Naturalism
18. A researcher is studying the effect of massage on the alleviation of pain in cancer patients. The study would be described as:
- A) Descriptive
 - B) Exploratory
 - C) Applied
 - D) Basic

19. Which of the following EBP-related purposes would *not* be addressed through cause-probing research?
- A) Intervention/treatment
 - B) Prognosis
 - C) Harm and etiology
 - D) Diagnosis and assessment
20. Over a 20-year period, Wallace and colleagues conducted a series of studies on children's pain and nurses' pain management. This is an example of:
- A) A research program
 - B) The scientific method
 - C) Positivist research
 - D) Basic research
21. Nurses have fully achieved an evidence-based practice, in that decisions are almost always based on solid research findings.
- A) True
 - B) False
22. Journal clubs involve meetings to discuss and critically evaluate research studies.
- A) True
 - B) False
23. Nursing research did not begin to achieve important breakthroughs until the 1990s.
- A) True
 - B) False
24. Throughout the history of nursing research, most studies have focused on clinical problems.
- A) True
 - B) False
25. Most people would agree that nursing research began with Florence Nightingale.
- A) True
 - B) False

26. The journal *Nursing Research* began publication during the 1950s.
A) True
B) False
27. The federal agency in the United States that currently offers support for nursing research is the National Center for Nursing Research.
A) True
B) False
28. The movement for evidence-based medicine originated in a Canadian university.
A) True
B) False
29. There are currently five or six journals that publish the results of nursing studies.
A) True
B) False
30. Nurse researchers work almost exclusively in universities and schools of nursing.
A) True
B) False
31. The annual NINR budget currently exceeds \$100 million.
A) True
B) False
32. The trial-and-error approach to developing knowledge is an empirical one.
A) True
B) False
33. Benchmarking data is at the pinnacle of the evidence hierarchy.
A) True
B) False
34. A paradigm is a general perspective on the nature of the real world.
A) True
B) False

35. According to the positivist paradigm, there is an objective reality that can be understood by researchers.
A) True
B) False
36. The naturalistic paradigm is associated with structured, quantitative research.
A) True
B) False
37. Naturalistic researchers attempt to understand rather than control the context of the phenomena being studied.
A) True
B) False
38. Nursing leaders currently are suggesting that in-depth, process-oriented studies are more important than controlled quantitative studies for nursing practice.
A) True
B) False
39. Empirical evidence is information derived from introspective analysis of real-world phenomena.
A) True
B) False
40. The scientific method assumes that all phenomena have antecedent causes.
A) True
B) False
41. Quantitative researchers are more likely than qualitative researchers to pursue research with prediction and control as a purpose.
A) True
B) False
42. Quantitative researchers tend to emphasize the dynamic and holistic aspects of human experience.
A) True
B) False

43. Applied research is designed to solve immediate problems.
A) True
B) False
44. The question, “How prevalent is this phenomenon?” would be asked in a quantitative descriptive study.
A) True
B) False
45. The question “What is the meaning of this phenomenon?” would be asked by qualitative researchers.
A) True
B) False

Answer Key

1. C
2. B
3. C
4. D
5. C
6. A
7. D
8. C
9. C
10. B
11. A
12. D
13. C
14. B
15. A
16. B
17. D
18. C
19. D
20. A
21. B
22. A
23. B
24. B
25. A
26. A
27. B
28. A
29. B
30. B
31. A
32. A
33. B
34. A
35. A
36. B
37. A
38. B
39. B
40. A
41. A
42. B
43. A
44. A

45. A