

PSY 222 Research Methods
Price (v 3.0) Chapter 4: Theories in Psychology

Learn about each key term/concept so that you are able to:

Recall the definition and examples.

Perform it if it is a skill or procedure.

Identify and evaluate the accuracy of new examples.

Look for **relationships** between concepts.

Distinguish between similar concepts.

Create new examples of the concept, if applicable.

Study reminders

- Use spaced retrieval practice
- Study–wait–test all–repeat
- Avoid simple rereading and cramming
- Practice what you will do on the exam

Key terms. Define each term and give examples (additional terms not in the textbook)**

Phenomenon	Parsimony	Mechanistic theory
Perspective	Theory	Stage theory
Hypothesis	Scope	Typology
Replication	Formality	Theoretical approach
Model	Functional theory	Hypothetico-deductive method

Practice writing answers to these questions as you would for an exam (≈ 80-100 words). When possible, illustrate abstract concepts with concrete examples.

1. Distinguish clearly between the terms phenomenon and theory.
2. Explain the purposes of scientific theories.
3. Explain why there are usually many plausible theories for any set of phenomena.
4. Describe three different ways that theories in psychology vary.
5. Give examples of several different types of theories in psychology.
6. Explain how researchers in psychology test their theories, and give a concrete example.
7. Explain how psychologists reevaluate theories in light of new results, including some of the complications involved.
8. Describe several ways to incorporate theory into your own research.

Other required material

PSY 222 Research Methods
Price (v 3.0) Chapter 5: Psychological Measurement

Learn about each key term/concept so that you are able to:

- Recall** the definition and examples.
- Perform** it if it is a skill or procedure.
- Identify and evaluate the accuracy** of new examples.
Look for **relationships** between concepts.
- Distinguish** between similar concepts.
- Create new examples** of the concept, if applicable.

Study reminders

- Use spaced retrieval practice
- Study–wait–test all–repeat
- Avoid simple rereading and cramming
- Practice what you will do on the exam

Key terms. Define each term and give examples (additional terms not in the textbook)**

Measurement	Nominal	Validity
Psychometrics	Ordinal	Face validity
Construct	Interval	Content validity
Conceptual definition	Ratio	Criterion validity
Operational definition	Reliability	Criterion (criteria)
Self-report measure	Test-retest reliability	Discriminant validity
Behavioral measure	Test-retest correlation	Reactivity
Physiological measure	Internal consistency	Socially desirable responding
Converging operations	Split-half correlation	Demand characteristics
Levels of measurement	Interrater reliability	

Practice writing answers to these questions as you would for an exam (≈ 80-100 words). When possible, illustrate abstract concepts with concrete examples.

1. Explain what a psychological construct is and give several examples.
2. Distinguish conceptual definitions from operational definitions and give examples of each.
3. Why is it important to understand the four levels of measurement?
4. Describe evidence that would be relevant to assessing the reliability and validity of a particular measure.
5. Specify the four broad steps in the measurement process.
6. Explain how you would decide whether to use an existing measure or create your own.
7. Describe multiple strategies to identify and locate existing measures of psychological constructs.
8. Describe several general principles for creating new measures and for implementing existing and new measures.

Other required material