**PrepGuide/IT-8**

Based on Heath, Chs. 5 & 7 (Observational Designs & Surveys)

**NAME:**

**Directions:** Feel free to work on this one with a classmate or to and turn in just one copy for everyone. Make sure everyone who contributed equally is credited by including names on the document.

**1. For the survey below, indicate any problems you see and how you could correct them.**

Survey of How AMAZING, INCREDIBLE, and FANTASTIC Professor Pitts’ Class Is

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where I can find you outside of class if I don’t like your evaluation of me: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. A few classes ago when you were working that stat issue, did you think that Professor Pitts did a good job explaining moderated mediation with multiple moderators with bias-corrected confidence intervals based on bootstrap coefficients from a constrained nonlinear regression module?

a. Absolutely!

b. Completely

c. Very much yes

d. Yes

e. Mostly yes

2. Is this your favorite class and do you have two legs?

a. Yes

b. No

3. Do you favor reducing the overwhelming amount of homework you are forced against your will to do?

a. Yes

b. No

4. If you weren’t to advocate not doing your homework, would you also not advocate not increasing the amount of reading you don’t feel is too much already?

a. No

b. Not no

5. Do you enjoy being alive?

a. Yes

b. No

6. Do you think humans should keep having children?

a. Yes

b. No

7. Will you vote for me as best teacher at BSC?

a. Yes

b. No

**2.** Evaluate the situations below and indicate whether you think the variable is better measured as self-report or with an observation. Propose an exact operationalization of how you would measure the variable; either write a self-report question or describe how you would observe the behavior.

a. A political psychologist wishes to measure the percentage of people who vote in elections in a certain rural area.

b. A psychology student wants to measure how often people send text messages while driving in a local neighborhood.

c. A relationships researcher wants to measure how much jealousy women feel in their relationships with their partners.

**3.** For which of the following claims is a representative sample, rather than a biased sample, likely to be essential? For which would a biased sample be acceptable?

a. a political poll predicting who will win a governor’s race

b. online readers’ ratings of a recently released film

c. estimating school achievement from a sample of test scores from 10 district schools, in order to evaluate which of the 10 schools is the highest achieving

d. evaluating the quality of the day’s surfing conditions by asking surfers on the local beach

**4.** Think of a research question you could best answer with some form of observational study (something new – not an example from your text). Design your study. Describe how you will operationally define your variables of interest; the necessary techniques you need to employ to help ensure the construct validity of your observations, and so on.