

Lab Ch4-Hypothesis and Operational Definition Exercise

Provide the same information for each hypothesis.

Hypothesis 1: Job stress is associated with absenteeism rates at work.

1. What type of relationship would you predict (positive linear, negative linear, and so on)?
2. Graph and label the relationship you predict. State a prediction based on the relationship shown by your graph.
3. Which method (experimental or nonexperimental) would you use to test this hypothesis? Why?
4. Which is the independent or “cause” variable and which is the dependent or “effect” variable?
5. State an operational definition for each variable. If experimental, describe how the independent variable might be manipulated and the dependent variable measured. If nonexperimental, describe how both variables might be measured.

Hypothesis 2: A pregnant woman’s diet affects the birth weight of her baby.

Hypothesis 3: The size of a meeting is related to the length of the meeting.

Hypothesis 4: Frequency of child abuse is related to the parents’ ages when they married.

Hypothesis 5: Political orientation is related to attitude toward gun control.

Hypothesis 6: Visual imagery improves memory.

Hypothesis 7: Jury decisions are influenced by the attractiveness of the defendant.

Hypothesis 8: Exercise is related to levels of stress.

Hypothesis 9: Age of instructor is related to students’ evaluation of the instructor.

Hypothesis 10: Number of hours worked is related to the number of hours spent studying.