

PSYC 100

Module 2: Cognitive Pillar - Cognition, Memory, Perception, Intelligence

Assignment: Evaluating the Evidence Worksheet 1 (10 points)

Claim 1: It's Better to Stick to Your First Impulse Than Go Back and Change Multiple Choice Test Answers

1. Collect and read at least two sources of evidence related to this claim (in any direction). WHERE did you find evidence? Provide the website/author's name and/or links for the material you considered from **Module 2 Claim 1 Evidence Examples**. Please note, you are not limited to these materials; you may also include other evidence, and provide those references (author name, year, link) here.

2. WHAT did the evidence say?

3. What TYPE of evidence was it? Circle/list only the types of evidence you considered.

Something that I or someone else heard (hearsay)

My own or another person's story (anecdote, blog/web posts)

Case study

Survey

Correlational study

Quasi-experimental study

Longitudinal study

Controlled Experimental study

Review or summary of many studies

Other (specify):

4. RATE the strength of the evidence on a scale of 1=10 (with 10 being the strongest), and EXPLAIN why you gave that rating.

Module 3: Biological Pillar - Neuroscience, Sensation, Consciousness

Assignment: Evaluating the Evidence Worksheet 2 (10 points)

Claim 2: Most people use 10% of their brain power.

-OR-

Claim 3: Brain training will make you smarter.

1. First, choose ONE of the Claims above to evaluate. Then, **collect and read at least two sources of evidence** related to this claim (from your own searches this time). **Consider evidence that evaluates various sides** of this claim, and try to find **primary sources**. WHERE did you find evidence? Provide the author's name, year of publications, and weblinks for the material you evaluated here:

2. WHAT did the evidence say?

3. What TYPE of evidence was it? Circle/list only the types of evidence you considered.

Something that I or someone else heard (hearsay)

My own or another person's story (anecdote, blog/web posts)

Case study

Survey

Correlational study

Quasi-experimental study

Longitudinal study

Controlled Experimental study

Review or summary of many studies

Other (specify):

4. RATE the strength of the evidence on a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the strongest), and EXPLAIN why you gave that rating.

Module 4: Developmental Pillar – Learning, Life Span Development, Language

Assignment: Evaluating the Evidence Worksheet 3 (10 points)

Claim 4: “Children raised in similar ways have similar personalities.”

-OR-

Claim 5: “Too much sugar causes hyperactivity in children.”

1. Choose ONE of the Claims above to evaluate. **Which type of claim is it:** Frequency, Association, or Causal? **EXPLAIN** your answer.

2. **Search for and read ONE primary source of evidence related to this claim** (i.e., a peer-reviewed scientific journal article written by the researchers themselves). If you begin with a media article or other non-scientific website (secondary source), find the original research journal article described in the secondary source. You could begin with a simple Google search of the question related to the claim, but again, you'll want to find a primary research source, perhaps from a link in a secondary source, through scholar.google.com, or better yet, in the library's **PsycArticles + PsycInfo** database (log into my.rockford.edu > Library > scroll down to Databases by Subject > Psychology > select PsycArticles + PsychInfo (not PsycTests)). You could also look into an article from the References section from the Module 4 Required Readings (Noba chapters). Please come see me if I can be of assistance. **WHERE** did you find evidence? **Provide the researcher's name, year of publications, and weblink or "digital object identifier" (doi) for the article or the abstract you evaluated. For example**, if I were investigating the claim that "Humans use 10% of their brain capacity," I might start by Googling "Percent of brain humans use," which would bring me to this secondary source media article. From here, I would select the link for the "study published" mentioned in the media article, which would bring me to the primary source journal article, in this case, a systematic review of several studies. So, my answer to this question would be: Herculano-Houzel (2009), doi: 10.3389/neuro.09.031.2009.

3. **WHAT** did the evidence say? Briefly describe the researcher's methods *and* conclusions. If you do not have access to the full article, briefly describe the Abstract for the article, in your own words.

4. What **TYPE** of evidence was it? **List** only the types of evidence the researcher produced.

Case study

Survey

Correlational study

Quasi-experimental study

Longitudinal study

Controlled Experimental study

Systematic review or meta-analysis of many studies

5. Evaluate whether the types of methods used in the study (descriptive, correlational, or experimental) appropriately matched the type of claim (frequency, association, or causal).

6. RATE the strength of the evidence on a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the strongest), and EXPLAIN why you gave that rating.

Module 5: Social and Personality Pillar – Social, Personality, Emotion, Multicultural, Gender, Motivation

Assignment: Evaluating the Evidence Worksheet 4 (10 points)

Claim 6: “Opposites attract.”

-OR-

Claim 7: “The more people who are present at an emergency, the more likely someone will intervene to help.”

1. Choose ONE of the Claims above to evaluate. **Which type of claim is it:** Frequency, Association, or Causal? **EXPLAIN** your answer.

2. **Search for and read the entire article for ONE primary source of evidence related to this claim from within the past two decades (2000-2019)** (i.e., a peer-reviewed scientific journal article written by the researchers themselves). Use the library's **PsycArticles + PsycInfo** database (log into my.rockford.edu > Library > scroll down to Databases by Subject > Psychology > select PsycArticles + PsychInfo). After you enter your search terms, when the list of results comes up, go to the left column and **select "Limit To > Full Text."** You could also look for a specific article from the References sections of the Module 5 Required Readings (Noba Chapters). Please come see me if I can be of assistance. **WHERE** did you find evidence? **Provide the first author's last name, year of publication, the title of the article, as well as the "digital object identifier" (doi) for the article, AND upload the PDF of the article along with your completed worksheet.**

3. **WHAT** did the evidence say? Briefly describe the researcher's methods *and* conclusions. If you do not have access to the full article, briefly describe the Abstract for the article, in your own words.

4. What **TYPE** of evidence was it? **List only** the types of evidence the researcher produced.

Case study

Survey

Correlational study

Quasi-experimental study

Longitudinal study

Controlled Experimental study

Systematic review or meta-analysis of many studies

5. Evaluate whether the types of methods used in the study (descriptive, correlational, or experimental) appropriately matched the type of claim (frequency, association, or causal).

6. RATE the strength of the evidence on a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the strongest), and EXPLAIN why you gave that rating.

**Module 6: Mental and Physical Health Pillar – Abnormal/Clinical Psychology,
Health Psychology, Therapies**

Assignment: Evaluating the Evidence Worksheet 5 (15 points)

Claim 8: “A positive outlook can prevent illnesses like cancer and heart disease.”

-OR-

Claim 9: “To be effective, mental health therapy must examine root causes from childhood.”

1. Choose ONE of the Claims above to evaluate. **Which type of claim is it:** Frequency, Association, or Causal? **EXPLAIN** your answer based on what the type means. (2 pts)

2. **From the References listed at the bottom of the Module 6 Required Readings (Noba chapters), find a peer-reviewed scientific journal article related to the claim you have chosen.** Use the library to find the article by searching in the entire database, you can begin your search in the whole library where it says "Start here": <https://www.rockford.edu/academics/library/resources/databases/>, or use the **PsycArticles + PsycInfo** database (log into my.rockford.edu > Library > scroll down to Databases by Subject > Psychology > select PsycArticles + PsychInfo) to find the article. Provide the reference in **APA format** (copy/paste from the Reading). (2 pts)

3. WHAT did the evidence say? Briefly describe the author's **methods and conclusions, in your own words.** If you do not have access to the full article, briefly describe the information from the Abstract for the article, in your own words. (2 pts)

4. What TYPE of evidence was it? **List only** the type(s) of method(s) the researcher used. (2 pts)

Case study

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Quasi-experimental study

Longitudinal study

Controlled Experimental study

Systematic review or meta-analysis of many studies

5. Evaluate whether the types of methods used in the study (descriptive, correlational, or experimental) appropriately matched the type of claim or hypothesis the researcher was studying (frequency, association, or causal). (2 pts)

6. **RATE** the strength of the evidence on a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the strongest), and **EXPLAIN** why you gave that rating, **considering the methods** of the study and issues like sample size, the diversity of the sample, and the way the variables were measured and/or manipulated. (2 pts)

7. What **science-based CONCLUSIONS** do you come to now regarding the claim you chose? What topics do you think future research in this area should study? (2 pts)