Test Bank for Juvenile Delinquency 3rd Bartollas

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MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1) The term _____ of delinquency has to do with the proportion of members of a cohort, or specific age category, who have committed delinquent acts by a certain age.
A) prevalence B) incidence C) validity D) reliability
Answer: A

2) The term _____ of delinquency refers to the frequency of offending or to the number of delinquent events.
A) prevalence B) incidence C) validity D) reliability
Answer: B

3) The term _____ refers to the extent to which a research instrument measures what it says it measures.
A) prevalence B) incidence C) validity D) reliability
Answer: C

4) The term _____ refers to the extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same juveniles when they are questioned two or more times.
A) prevalence B) incidence C) validity D) reliability
Answer: D

5) Most information about the number of children appearing before the juvenile court each year comes from what publication of the U.S. Department of Justice?
A) National Crime Victimization Survey B) Juvenile Court Statistics
C) Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency D) Uniform Crime Reports
Answer: B

6) A(n) _____ collects data from youths who report on their own delinquent acts.
A) cohort study B) observational study
C) self–evaluation survey D) self–report survey
Answer: A

7) Which of the following is a good example of a longitudinal method of research study?
A) content analysis B) experimental data C) survey data D) cohort group
Answer: D

8) The four cohort studies (Philadelphia, PA; London, England; Racine, WI; and Columbus, OH) agree on far more than they disagree. On which finding do these studies NOT agree?
A) A few offenders committed the majority of serious property and violent offenses
B) Lower–class minority males committed the most serious offenses
C) Youth crime does not progress from less serious to more serious
D) Punishment by the juvenile justice system tended to encourage rather than discourage future criminality.
Answer: C

9) Victimization data show that adolescent females are victimized more often than adolescent males and that generally speaking, this victimization is influenced by their gender, race, and _____.
A) age B) geographical location
C) religion D) socioeconomic status
Answer: D

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10) Studies based on official statistics have reported that _____ are overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration rates relative to their population based.
A) Whites B) Asians C) African Americans D) Hispanics
Answer: C

11) The term _____ refers to the age at which a child begins to commit delinquent acts; an important dimension of delinquency.
A) escalation of offenses B) age of onset
C) chronic offending D) hidden delinquency
Answer: B

12) The term _____ refers to an increase in the frequency and severity of an individual's offenses an important dimension of delinquency.
A) hidden delinquency B) escalation of offenses
C) chronic offending D) age of onset
Answer: B

13) Rolf Loeber and colleagues identified multiple developmental pathways to a delinquent career. An early _____ pathway consists of a sequence of stubborn behavior, defiance, and authority avoidance.
A) chronic B) covert C) overt D) authority conflict
Answer: D

14) What is the term for the repeated involvement of a juvenile in one type of delinquency during the course of his or her offending?
A) specialization B) copying C) imitation D) modeling
Answer: A

15) According to research on chronic offenders, official records make it very difficult to _____.
A) investigate sociopathic attitudes
B) document chronic offenders' social class
C) measure violent crimes
D) predict chronic offenders' criminal career outcomes
Answer: D

16) Which of the following is NOT one of the three population groups Alfred Blumstein identified in his classic study?
A) anti-socials B) innocents C) amateurs D) persisters
Answer: A

17) The experience of having been _____ as a juvenile seriously compromises multiple life domains in adulthood, especially for females.
A) humanized B) specialized C) institutionalized D) decriminalized
Answer: C

18) A small number of juvenile offenders accounts for a disproportionate number of all crimes.
A) authority conflict B) covert C) chronic D) overt
Answer: C

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19) The national epidemic of youth violence began in the late 1980s, peaked in the _____, and then dropped to earlier levels, where it remains today.
A) early 2000s B) 2010s C) late 2000s D) 1990s
Answer: D

20) _____ has/have played a major role in the decline of gun use by juveniles.
A) The family B) Lawyers C) The police D) The school
Answer: C

21) The term "prevalence of delinquency" refers to the frequency with which delinquent behavior occurs.
A) True
B) False
Answer: B

22) The term "incidence of delinquency" refers to the percentage of the juvenile population involved in delinquent behavior.
A) True
B) False
Answer: B

23) The Federal Bureau of Investigation sponsors the for the Uniform Crime Reporting Program data source.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

24) Many crimes are hidden or are not reported to the police; therefore, the UCR Program vastly underestimates the actual amount of crime in the United States.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

25) According to the UCR Program, juvenile murder rates increased greatly between 1993 and 2003.
A) True
B) False
Answer: B

26) Official arrest statistics show that adolescent males are involved in more frequent and more serious delinquent acts than are adolescent females.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

27) Studies based on official statistics have reported that African Americans are overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration rates relative to their population base.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

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28) Victimization data reveal that adolescent males are more likely to be victims than are adolescent females and that their victimization is shaped by their gender, race, and social class.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

29) Research traditionally has been unable to find a clear relationship between social class and delinquency.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

30) Several studies have found that the age of onset is one of the best predictors of the length and intensity of delinquent careers.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

31) Young people who begin offending early tend to have long delinquent careers; and at least some youthful offenders progress to increasingly serious forms of delinquency, with a handful of youthful offenders going on to become career offenders.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

32) A juvenile who engages repeatedly in delinquent behavior is a "chronic offender." The Philadelphia cohort studies defined chronic offenders as youths who had committed five or more delinquent offenses. Other studies use this term to refer to youth involved in serious and repetitive offenses.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

33) Homicide death rates of males 13 to 17 decreased in the 1990s.
A) True
B) False
Answer: B

34) The Boston Gun Project has been one of the least successful efforts at reducing firearm violence in major cities.
A) True
B) False
Answer: B

35) Good communications between the community and the police is one strategy to reduce juvenile gun violence.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

36) The easy availability of handguns has contributed to a growing trend in youth violence in this country.
A) True
B) False
Answer: A

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SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

37) The term _____ of delinquency refers to the percentage of the juvenile population involved in delinquent behavior.
Answer: prevalence

38) The term _____ of delinquency refers to the frequency with which delinquent behavior occurs.
Answer: incidences

39) The extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same juveniles when they are questioned two or more times is called _____.
Answer: reliability

40) One major difficulty with cohort studies is that their findings cannot be _____ confidently beyond the persons in the cohort.
Answer: generalized

41) Most studies using self–report measures have found that African Americans are more likely to be _____ delinquent but are not significantly worse than Caucasians in their prevalence or frequency of offending.
Answer: adjudicated

42) Victimization data shows that adolescent _____ are victimized more often than adolescents of the other gender.
Answer: females

43) The Seattle Social Development Project data showed that an early age of onset predicted a _____ rate of offending in both self–reports and court referrals.
Answer: high

44) The term escalation of offenses refers to a(n) _____ in the frequency and severity of an individual's offenses.
Answer: increase

45) A small number of chronic juvenile offenders accounts for a _____ share of all crimes.
Answer: disproportionate

46) Research shows that _____ is strongly predictive of premature, unstable, precarious, and unsatisfied conditions in multiple life domains.
Answer: institutionalization

MATCHING. Choose the item in column 2 that best matches each item in column 1.

Please match each concept or term with its definition.

47) Prevalence of delinquency
Answer: B

48) Incidence of delinquency
Answer: A

49) Hidden delinquency
Answer: C

A) The frequency with which delinquent behavior occurs.

B) The percentage of the juvenile population involved in delinquent behavior.

C) Any unobserved or unreported delinquency

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Match each major source of data on delinquency with its type of information.

50) Uniform Crime Reporting Program
Answer: C

51) National Crime Victimization Survey
Answer: A

52) Juvenile Court Statistics
Answer: D

53) Self–report surveys
Answer: B

A) Victimization data

B) Individual self–reports of involvement in delinquency and crime

C) The FBI's program for compiling annual data about crimes committed in the United States.

D) Delinquency cases processed in federal courts

ESSAY. Write your answer in the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper.

54) Discuss the various weaknesses attributed to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program as a measure of crime.

Answer: The answer should include the following points:
- Most crimes go unreported.
- Only serious property and personal crimes of juveniles are acted upon.
- UCR statistics may tell more about police policy than about crime.
- Data may not be entirely reliable.

55) Discuss the findings of various studies on racial/ethnic background and delinquent behavior.

Answer: The answer should include the following points:
- African Americans are overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration relative to their population base.
- African American, Hispanic, and Native American adolescents were involved in significantly higher levels of serious violence than were Caucasians.
- African American adolescents experience and are involved in higher rates of violence, especially armed violence. However, they do not have higher rates of property or drug crime.
- A combination of neighborhood context, socioeconomic status, and social psychological processes can explain most of the relationship between race and violence as well as ethnicity and violence.
- School–level characteristics were related to overall discipline levers, which is consistent with a racial threat hypothesis.
- Ethno–racial inequality in neighborhood crime rates is an outgrowth of racial residential segregation.

56) Discuss the various factors that may lead to juvenile offenders continuing on into adult criminal behavior.

Answer: The answer should include the following points:
- Age of onset
- Continuation or persistence
- Escalation of offenses
- Specialization of offenses
- Tendency toward chronic offending
- Length of criminal career
- Desistance or termination of offending

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57) Discuss the relationship between guns and youth violence.

Answer: The answer should include the following points:

- Homicide death rates of males thirteen to seventeen years old often reflect gun use.
- Youths with guns tend to live in communities with high prevalence of gun ownership.
- Youths with guns are more likely to engage in serious assaults and robberies than others.
- Youths involved in drugs are more likely to carry guns than others and to believe that guns are necessary for their protection.
- Youths from gangs are more probable to carry guns.

58) What is the importance of both reliability and validity to the measurement and nature of delinquency?

Answer: Answers may include the following points:

- Validity: The extent to which a research instrument measures what it says it measures.
- Reliability: The extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same juveniles when they are questioned two or more times.

59) The term "hidden delinquency" refers to any unobserved or unreported delinquency. What delinquent acts do you think are reported the LEAST? Explain and justify your choices.

Answer: Answers will vary per individual.

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