

Name _____

Period _____

Date _____

Independent & Dependent Variables

AP Psychology · Mr. Cummings

Part 1

Directions: Identify the independent and dependent variable in each statement below.

- 1) People who are limited to 30 minutes of social media per day read more books than people with unlimited access.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 2) Drinking energy drinks makes people more aggressive.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 3) Taking a nap in the afternoon makes people more focused for the rest of the day.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 4) Spending time with a family dog decreases the amount of stress someone is feeling.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 5) Eating breakfast in the morning increases the ability to learn in school.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

Part 2 — more challenging

Directions: Identify the independent and dependent variable in each description of an experiment.

- 1)** Students watched a cartoon either alone or with others and then rated how funny they found the cartoon to be.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 2)** A comprehension test was given to students after they had studied textbook material either in silence or with the television turned on.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 3)** Some elementary school teachers were told that a child's parents were college graduates, and other teachers were told that the child's parents had not finished high school; they then rated the child's grades.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 4)** Workers at a company were randomly assigned to one of two conditions: one group completed a stress management training program; another group of workers did not participate in the training. The number of sick days taken by these workers was examined for the next 2 months.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____

- 5)** Students at a university were randomly split into two groups and each received a different text for a philosophy course. One group received a traditional textbook, while the other received an interactive textbook on a tablet computer. After the course, the final exam grades between the two groups of students were compared.

Independent Variable: _____

Dependent Variable: _____