Week 5  

Project Assignment 3: Item Writing  

Purpose  
We will collect data in class to compare two groups of students. The purpose of this assignment is to determine what data we will collect for your research question.

Assignment  
1. Briefly discuss the topic that your team is interested in. Then figure out how you can divide the students in this class into two groups that are relevant to your topic. For example,  
   a. Men vs. women  
   b. Republicans vs. Democrats  
   c. Parents vs. non-parents  
   d. Pet-owners vs. non-pet-owners  
   e. Car owners vs. non-car owners  
   f. Home-owners vs. non-home-owners (which includes both renters and people living with relatives)  
   g. Less than 20 years old vs. 20 or more years old  
2. Be sure that you are selecting groups that will exist in this group of students. For example, you should not study iguana owners versus non-iguana owners, because there may not be many people who own iguanas in this class.  
3. What variable will you compare these groups on? Write a single item to compare your groups. For example,  
   a. How long have you lived in Las Vegas? ____ years  
   b. How much do you like vanilla ice-cream? 1 = not at all, 2 = a little, 3 = quite a bit, 4 = I love it!  
   c. How likely are you to vote for a Democrat in the next election? 1 = very unlikely, 2 = moderately unlikely, 3 = moderately likely, 4 = very likely  
   d. I believe Climate Change is partially caused by humans. 1 = disagree, 2 = neither disagree nor agree, 3 = agree  
   e. I love my parents. 1 = True, 2 = False  
   f. I keep my room neat and tidy. 1 = strong disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neutral, 4 = agree, 5 = strongly agree  
4. Discuss your groups and your item with Dr. Barchard during class. She may suggest improvements to it. Do NOT leave class until Dr. Barchard has approved your groups and your item.  
5. In BlackBoard, edit your wiki. Add the following information:  
   a. The two groups you will compare  
   b. The item you will compare them on  

Tell us you are done  
1. ONE team member needs to tell us you are done.  
2. In BlackBoard, click on Assignments and select Project Assignment 3.  
3. Briefly tell us that you have finished the assignment.  
4. We will review your wiki and enter your grade there, under Project Assignment 3.