Validity: Application and Review Exercise

1. A fifth-grade classroom teacher is concerned about whether he’s measuring the appropriate content in his end-of-the-year final examination. Accordingly, he decides to see how well his students’ end-of-the-year exam scores predict students’ grades earned at the end of the sixth grade. He waits one year and then computes a correlation coefficient between his students’ fifth-grade final exam scores and the end-of-year grades supplied by their sixth-grade teachers. What kind of validity evidence is the teacher assembling?
   a. content validity
   b. criterion validity
   c. construct validity
   d. internal validity

2. A school district measurement specialist has been studying a newly developed test of children’s thinking skills as a potential assessment instrument to be used in the district. Because effective thinkers are supposed to be flexible, the developers of the new test provide evidence there is a negative relationship between students’ test scores and their scores on a rigidity test. (The higher the scores on the rigidity test, the less flexible the student is supposed to be.) What kind of validity evidence are the developers of the thinking skills test providing?
   a. content validity
   b. criterion validity
   c. construct validity
   d. conclusion validity

3. For all major classroom assessments, a history teacher asks the district’s social studies supervisor to review the draft assessment instruments to make sure that they are covering the right knowledge and skills. Although most of the time the supervisor approves the proposed tests “as is,” on a few occasions the supervisor has identified content-coverage gaps. What kind of validity evidence is the teacher assembling?
   a. content validity
   b. criterion validity
   c. construct validity
   d. external validity

4. If test items representatively sample the subject matter of a given apprenticeship course, the test is said to possess evidence of which type of validity in terms of the subject matter of this course?
   a. construct validity
   b. predictive validity
   c. content validity
   d. concurrent validity
5. A leadership skills assessment appears to adequately measure the skill-set needed for effective leadership. What type of validity is being demonstrated in this instance?
   a. construct validity
   b. conclusion validity
   c. face validity
   d. content validity

6. In a study of young adults, a social researcher has found that a relationship exists between observed levels of aggression and job success. What type of validity evidence is depicted in this example?
   a. construct validity
   b. conclusion validity
   c. external validity
   d. concurrent validity

7. A test correlates well with subjects’ current academic performance. This test shows evidence of which type of validity?
   a. construct validity
   b. conclusion validity
   c. face validity
   d. concurrent validity

8. In a well-controlled laboratory experiment, a researcher has discovered a causal relationship between social image and self-esteem. Which type of validity is indicated by this finding?
   a. construct validity
   b. external validity
   c. internal validity
   d. criterion validity

9. A social researcher randomly assigns subjects in the sample being studied to both experimental and control conditions. Consequently, the researcher is able to generalize results from the sample to the theoretical population. What type of validity evidence applies here?
   a. construct validity
   b. external validity
   c. internal validity
   d. criterion validity

10. What term refers to a judgment of the extent to which scores from a test can be used to predict the examinees' performance in some future activity?
    a. content validity
    b. criterion validity
    c. construct validity
    d. conclusion validity