

Critical Realism Multiple Choice Questions

1. Please select **one** answer from the following responses:
 - a. Critical realism dictates a particular theory.
 - b. Critical realism is a framework or tools for selecting how to do our research.
 - c. All critical realists are Marxists.
 - d. You have to be a critical realist to work on a critical realist project.
2. Please select **one or more answer/s** from the following statements:
 - a. Some argue that critical realism fits in better with the natural sciences than the social science.
 - b. Some people call themselves **critical realists** with a small 'c' and a small 'r' rather than Critical Realists.
 - c. Critical realism provides an inquiry paradigm.
 - d. The paradigm is the world view while the methodology is the theory of inquiry.
3. Please select **one** answer from the following responses:
 - a. Critical realists understand reality as being socially constructed.
 - b. In critical realism knowledge is generated by uncovering general laws.
 - c. The critical realism paradigm is neither positivism nor interpretivism.
 - d. Critical realism can only be deployed in qualitative research.
4. Please select **one/all** that apply from the following responses about critical realists' preferences in relation to methods:
 - a. Prefer qualitative methods.
 - b. Prefer quantitative methods.
 - c. Prefer randomised control trials.
 - d. No preference for a particular method.
5. Please select **two** answers from the following responses:
 - a. Retrodution is developing new theory.
 - b. Both retrodution and retrodiction relate to creating new theories.
 - c. Retrodiction is developing existing theory.
 - d. Both retrodution and retrodiction relate to developing existing theories.
6. Please select **two** answers from the following responses relating to theory within the critical realism paradigm:
 - a. Theories will always be fallible and partial.
 - b. Theories are always subject to revision and context specific.
 - c. Some theories will never change.
 - d. Some theories are universal and not context specific.
7. Please select **one or more answer/s** from the following responses:
 - a. We are looking for a causal law to show what benefits mindfulness creates.
 - b. Mindfulness in certain conditions works as a demi-regularity or pattern of regularities.
 - c. It is possible to show that mindfulness training will create benefits.
8. Please select **one** answer from the following responses about depth ontology, meaning what must exist for us to experience events in the way we do:
 - a. Depth ontology only includes the empirical, meaning what we experience.



- b. It only includes the actual, meaning the world of events.
 - c. It only includes the real, meaning the generative mechanisms or structures which must exist for us to experience the world in the way we do.
 - d. It includes the empirical, the actual and the real.
9. Please select **one answer** from the following responses about constant conjecture:
- a. Constant conjecture does not explain, it describes.
 - b. Constant conjecture is a way to probe and therefore explain reality.
 - c. Constant conjecture explains the outcome of research.
10. Please select **one** answer from the following responses:
- a. Downward conflation is a constructivist theory.
 - b. Upward conflation emphasises causation and is positivistic.
 - c. There is separation between agency and structure in a critical realist approach.

For the answer key, please email nihrcmw@abdn.ac.uk

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