## RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY ANSWERS

**Instructions:** Match the definitions/examples with the correct type of reliability or validity. Technically there may be more than one correct answer for each definition/example, but each term is intended to be used only once.

**Reliability and Validity Concepts**

D 1. Test-retest reliability A 7. Error

I 2. Reliability C 8. Face validity

J 3. Validity E 9. Predictive validity

G 4. Construct validity F 10. Inter-rater reliability

K 5. Criterion validity B 11. Discriminant validity

H 6. Internal reliability/Inter-item consistency L 12. Content validity

**Definitions and Examples**

1. Random influences incorporated into measurements, including bad lighting, poor question wording, and bias from observers.

B. The Life Satisfaction Scale does *not* correlate strongly with cognitive complexity.

C. The Life Satisfaction Scale *looks* like it measures what it purports to.

D. A class takes a biology test and then they take it again two weeks later so the instructor can assess \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

E. The degree to which a test predicts another variable it should predict, such as the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score predicting success in a higher education doctoral program. The most specific answer is predictive (E); criterion (K) also works.

F. The degree to which two or more observers agree about an event, such as whether Shakira, Blake, Usher, and/or Adam turn their chairs for a participant.

G. If a depression scale truly reflects depression, it has good (specific type of validity) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

H. The degree to which responses to items are correlated. For instance, if a vocabulary test has high \_\_\_\_\_\_, people tend to perform consistently across the questions. One way to assess this is by using Cronbach’s alpha.

I. Consistency across repeated measurement.

J. The degree to which a scale/test actually measures what it intends to.

K. The degree to which two measures that reflect the same concept are correlated, such as if MCCC creates its own reading placement test and correlates scores with scores from the same students’ COMPASS reading placement. The answer is criterion (K), as the more specific type of criterion validity, concurrent, is not listed as a choice.

L. If the Psychology GRE specifically samples from all the various areas of psychology, such as cognitive, learning, social, perception, clinical, etc., it likely has good \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.