

Willpower Quiz

Instructions: Fill in the blanks with the words above each section.

implications, outcomes, participants predictions, researcher

Some of the most famous experiments studying willpower used marshmallows. A _____ would offer a child a marshmallow, and then tell the child that he or she could also get a second marshmallow by waiting until the scientist returned before eating it. The researchers used marshmallows as a way to measure the child's self control.

The marshmallow studies were especially interesting because the researchers followed a large number of _____ for years after the marshmallow test. This enabled the scientists to collect enough data to draw some conclusions. The _____ of these experiments matched some peoples' _____: children who displayed the most willpower during the experiment turned out to be successful more often as adults than the children who ate the marshmallows right away. The _____ of the study are that finding ways to increase willpower will provide long-term benefits both to individuals and to society.

acknowledge, indicated, rational

Some critics of these experiments have _____ a problem with them, though. The test measures not only self-control, but also trust. Eating the marshmallow immediately is a _____ response for children from backgrounds in which the adults around them often do not keep their promises or are unable to meet their needs. They may fear that if they wait, they will end up losing BOTH marshmallows. Such researchers often _____ the value of willpower but believe this is not a fair way to test for it, especially among "disadvantaged" children who may have good reasons to distrust the adults in their lives.

arbitrary, grade, participation, principles, research

Some instructors have complicated formulas for deciding on the _____ they will give each student. They may give 10% credit for class _____, 15% for homework completion, 25% for a _____ paper, 25% for quizzes and tests, and 25% for the final exam. In the U.S. students expect grading to be based on fixed _____, not on a teacher's personal feelings about a student or some other _____ standard.

Willpower Quiz Answers

implications, outcomes, participants predictions, researcher

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acknowledge, indicated, rational

Some critics of these experiments have indicated a problem with them, though. The test measures not only self-control, but also trust. Eating the marshmallow immediately is a rational response for children from backgrounds in which the adults around them often do not keep their promises or are unable to meet their needs. They may fear that if they wait, they will end up losing BOTH marshmallows. Such researchers often acknowledge the value of willpower but believe this is not a fair way to test for it, especially among "disadvantaged" children who may have good reasons to distrust the adults in their lives.

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