FREE RBT STUDY SHEET · 2026 EXAM

Partial, Whole and Momentary Time Sampling Practice (PDF)

Interval and time-sampling methods are a common source of errors on the measurement domain because the three procedures look similar on paper. Partial interval recording scores an interval if the behavior occurs at any point in it, whole interval recording requires the behavior to continue through the whole interval, and momentary time sampling checks only the instant at the end. This set presents scenarios in which you must identify the method and predict how it will shape the data. Work slowly through the first few items, then time yourself on the rest.

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Practice questions

Answer every question before you look at the key, then check yourself on the next pages.

1. During play, an RBT marks an interval if hand flapping happened at any time during that interval. Which term names this measurement procedure?

- **A** Whole interval recording
- **B** Partial interval recording
- **C** Momentary time sampling
- **D** Permanent product recording

2. If the learner raises the voice above a quiet level for even one second, the interval is scored no. What method is being used?

- **A** Momentary time sampling
- **B** Partial-interval recording
- **C** Total duration recording
- **D** Whole-interval recording

3. At the end of each minute, the RBT checks whether rocking is happening at that instant. Which procedure is used?

- **A** Partial interval check
- **B** Whole interval check
- **C** Momentary time sampling
- **D** Permanent product count

4. During group instruction, the observer checks Chris only when each minute beep sounds. Chris was talking earlier, but is quiet at the beep. How should that sample be scored?

- **A** Yes, because talking occurred earlier
- **B** Yes, because talking was brief
- **C** No, because talking had stopped
- **D** No, because all intervals are no

5. An interval is scored when off-task behavior appears during any portion of it. What method is being implemented?

- **A** Frequency recording
- **B** Partial-interval recording
- **C** Whole-interval recording
- **D** Momentary time sampling

6. A classroom sheet scores "yes" when out-of-seat behavior happens at any time during each 30-second interval. Which procedure is being used?

- **A** Whole-interval score
- **B** Partial-interval score
- **C** Momentary-time check
- **D** Permanent-product count

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7. During table work, Ana taps the desk once near the middle of a 30-second interval. The sheet says a brief occurrence during the interval earns a yes mark. Which method fits?

- **A** Partial interval
- **B** Whole interval
- **C** Momentary sample
- **D** Duration recording

8. During art, the sheet says to mark yes only when Maya keeps her hands in her lap from the start signal through the end signal. Which procedure matches the sheet?

- **A** Partial interval recording
- **B** Whole interval recording
- **C** Momentary time sampling
- **D** Event recording count

9. The RBT observes only at the end of each one-minute interval to see whether the learner is engaged with a peer. What method is being used?

- **A** Duration recording
- **B** Partial-interval recording
- **C** Momentary time sampling
- **D** Whole-interval recording

10. A data sheet says to score "yes" if humming occurs at any point during each 20-second interval. Which procedure matches the rule?

- **A** Whole interval method
- **B** Partial interval method
- **C** Latency timing method
- **D** Product recording method

11. In one interval, Dana hums at the start, stops, hums in the middle, and is quiet at the final beep. Which rule would still score that interval yes?

- **A** Whole interval
- **B** Momentary sample
- **C** Event recording rule
- **D** Partial interval

12. A data sheet says to check engagement only when a vibrating timer signals every interval. Eli is engaged at the signal, although he was off task earlier. Which method is shown?

- **A** Momentary sample
- **B** Partial interval
- **C** Whole interval
- **D** Product recording

Answer key and explanations

1. Correct answer: B · Partial interval recording
Partial interval recording scores an interval when the behavior occurs at any point.
Task: A.2

2. Correct answer: D · Whole-interval recording
Whole-interval recording requires the target response to occur throughout the entire interval. "Entire interval" signals whole-interval recording.
Task: A.2

3. Correct answer: C · Momentary time sampling
Momentary time sampling checks only at the sample moment.
Task: A.2

4. Correct answer: C · No, because talking had stopped
Momentary time sampling scores the behavior status at the planned instant.
Task: A.2

5. Correct answer: B · Partial-interval recording
Partial-interval recording marks occurrence if the target appears during any part of the interval. "Any part of the interval" signals partial-interval recording.
Task: A.2

6. Correct answer: B · Partial-interval score
Partial-interval scoring marks the interval when behavior occurs at any point.
Task: A.2

7. Correct answer: A · Partial interval
Partial interval scoring marks yes when the response occurs at least once during the interval.
Task: A.2

8. Correct answer: B · Whole interval recording
Whole interval recording requires the response for the entire interval.
Task: A.2

9. Correct answer: C · Momentary time sampling
Momentary time sampling records whether the behavior is occurring at a specified instant. A check at one designated instant is momentary time sampling.
Task: A.2

10. Correct answer: B · Partial interval method
Partial interval recording scores an interval when behavior occurs at any time.
Task: A.2

11. Correct answer: D · Partial interval

Partial interval scoring is yes because the response occurred during the interval.

Task: A.2

12. Correct answer: A · Momentary sample

Momentary sampling uses the planned signal point to decide the score.

Task: A.2

Study tips

- Memorize the trigger for each method: any part, the entire interval, or the single moment.
- Predict the direction of bias: partial interval tends to overestimate, whole interval tends to underestimate.
- Read the scenario for the words 'at any time', 'throughout', and 'at the end' to match the method quickly.
- Draw a short timeline for each scenario if the wording is confusing.

FAQ

Which interval method usually overestimates behavior?

Partial interval recording tends to overestimate duration or frequency because any occurrence in the interval scores it.

Which method underestimates a behavior that happens briefly?

Whole interval recording can underestimate behavior, since the behavior must continue for the whole interval to be scored.

Are these methods used only for measurement practice?

They are used in data collection, but the exam items focus on identifying methods and their effects. Confirm specific procedures with your supervisor and agency guidelines.

Turn this sheet into a real exam rehearsal

The free mock exam runs on the clock and shows which task-list areas still cost you points.

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