

Evidence-Based Policing: The Basics Exam

1. Evidence-based policing states that officers should be armed with:
 - a. The most up-to-date equipment and technology
 - b. Knowledge of the law and proper procedures
 - c. High-quality knowledge about what strategies work best to fight crime
 - d. All of the above
2. True or False: The norm in policing has been to include research knowledge in tactical decision-making.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. True or False: We know now through research that some police tactics are ineffective, or even have harmful effects.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. What is NOT a reason that police are hesitant to use research in their work?
 - a. It is sometimes not disseminated or translated properly.
 - b. Organizational cultures discourage the use of research evidence.
 - c. It is too expensive.
 - d. There are many policing tactics that have yet to be studied through evaluative research.
5. What kind of outcomes can be expected from utilizing research in an evidence-based policing approach?
 - a. Less crime
 - b. Better interaction with victims and offenders
 - c. Improvements in stress management and the physical health of officers
 - d. All of the above
6. What is the Evidence-Based Policing Matrix?
 - a. A computer simulation for police training
 - b. A tool that officers can access to identify tactics that work best to prevent crime
 - c. A categorization of cutting edge technology
 - d. A disciplinary system the police use for officers who commit infractions
7. True or False: Anticipating a fight breaking out at certain bars at closing time is an example of proactive policing.
 - a. True
 - b. False

8. A more focused approach in policing would involve:
 - a. Prioritizing places causing the most problems
 - b. Faster response to 9-1-1 calls
 - c. Understanding what is causing the problem in the first place
 - d. Both A and C

9. True or False: Observing and understanding that a bar has a lack of security or an over-serving problem is part of developing a tailored and focused approach to policing.
 - a. True
 - b. False

10. True or False: Proactive and focused approaches are not always effective, but in general these approaches perform better than reactive and general ones.
 - a. True
 - b. False

11. What is an example of place-based policing?
 - a. Patrolling crime hot spots – places where crimes cluster
 - b. Focusing more on problem places as opposed to problem people
 - c. DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education)
 - d. Both A and B

12. True or False: Crime is randomly distributed and can happen anywhere.
 - a. True
 - b. False

13. True or False: How officers and detectives treat offenders does not matter to an offender's recidivism.
 - a. True
 - b. False

14. Research has also shown that burglaries are more likely to be solved:
 - a. When police use infrared scanners at the scene
 - b. When officers follow through with evidence collection and case building
 - c. When an officer arrives at the scene within 5 minutes of the burglary call

15. True or False: Officers are too busy to do anything in-between calls for service.
 - a. True
 - b. False

16. What is the Koper Curve?
 - a. A technique of shooting your gun
 - b. A method of tactical driving
 - c. The idea of visiting high crime places unexpectedly for short periods of time
 - d. The concept of rapid response to domestic violence calls

17. Why should officers focus on small disorders and minor "soft crimes"?
- To increase their arrest rates
 - These crimes can provide opportunities for other types of disorders and crimes
 - To displace minor crimes to other jurisdictions
18. True or False: Watching CCTV footage when you are not in a particular location can help officers to understand the movement of offenders, victims, and potential guardians.
- True
 - False
19. Which of these are proactive, place-based and focused strategies?
- Working with state's attorneys and specialized units to build cases for civil remedies and nuisance abatement that can evict criminogenic residents and owners
 - Conducting a crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) analysis
 - Engaging in a "pulling levers" approach - using multiple agencies and focused deterrence- to address gang or drug-related violence on a street corner.
 - All of the above
20. Which is NOT a key evidence-based benefit to officers getting out of their patrol cars?
- Conducting proactive foot patrol and successful field interviews
 - Improving visibility in hard-to-reach places
 - Responding quickly to 9-1-1 calls
 - Improving your relationship with informal guardians
21. True or False: Increasing arrests do not necessarily reduce or prevent crime.
- True
 - False
22. True or False: Rewards in policing often don't have to do with how well officers reduce crime opportunities, but instead how many arrests are made, citations are written, or the number of years served on the force.
- True
 - False
23. What sort of cultural factors are more highly valued in the policing world than research evidence?
- Hunches, experiential knowledge, and anecdotes
 - Pressure to spend time in the gym
 - Emotions, stereotypes, and political pressures
 - Both A and C
24. Which of the following is NOT true?
- An officer's hunch or experience may be wrong.
 - Experience and research knowledge are not compatible.
 - Agencies have overcome the challenges of implementing an evidence-based approach.
 - Information from crime analysis is essential for the effectiveness of police officers.