Discussion Questions

# Chapter #9: Entering and Organizing Quantitative Data

1. Why is it important to use a unique identifier to identify participants in your research?
2. Imagine your colleague provides you with a data set containing information from a research study of alcohol consumption among high school students. There is a variable in this data set that corresponds to the question “How many alcoholic drinks did you consume in the last week?” You notice that 25% of the cases (or individuals) are missing data for this variable. Does this concern you? Justify your answer. Would you feel differently, if 2% of the data was missing?
3. Imagine you are tasked with developing variable names to input into a data set. Develop variable names for each of the following variables.
   1. marital status
   2. ethnicity
   3. age in years
   4. birthplace
   5. alcohol abuse
4. You are interested in measuring age in a survey. Can you construct a nominal variable to measure household income? Justify your answer. Can you construct an ordinal variable to measure household income? Justify your answer.