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Part One: Reading comprehension

Directions: Read the following passages carefully. Each passage is followed by some questions. Complete the questions with the most suitable words or phrases (a, b, c, or d). Base your answers on the information given only.

Passage 1

Investigators realized that, although significant and consistent, the relationship between adverse events and their outcomes was only weak to modest in strength/ Many people with high numbers of events did not become ill or distressed while others with few events did. Correlations between numbers of events and distress symptoms ranged from 0.10 to 0.35 across studies, indicating that negative events explained only 1 to 12 percent of the variance in distress. This observation suggested that the health impacts of stressful events were being reduced by other factors. Many investigators turned their attention to psychological and social variables that might moderate the effects of stress experiences on health outcomes. Other researchers reasoned that the weak to modest link between negative events and health outcomes was because there were important types of stressful experiences that were not captured by checklists of life changes. More comprehensive measurement of stressors might help to explain the higher rates of illness, injury, disability, mortality, psychological distress, and psychiatric disorder found in lower status and disadvantaged social groups in the population.

121. The researcher in this passage found that the relationship between events and outcomes was

- a. stressful and weakening
- b. mild, though variable
- c. severe, though variable
- d. meaningful and reliable

122. The findings of the study revealed that

- a. the quality of events is more effective than their quantity
- b. the quantity of events affects people differently
- c. people facing high umbers of events are hardly affected
- d. people exhibit strong reaction to the events

123. It is understood that the negative events alone

- a. lead to severe stressful outcomes
- b. can be reduced by other factors
- c. cannot rule out most of the distress outcomes
- d. may not be responsible for the stress symptoms

124. Psychological variables are assumed to

- a. be more effective than social variables in reducing stress
- b. decrease the impact of stressful events on health outcomes
- c. be responsible for 1 to 12 percent of the variance in distress
- d. reduce the correlations between events and outcomes

25. Further research is recommended to understand the reasons behind

- a. the presence of psychological distress among different social classes
- b. the high frequency of illnesses and disabilities among patients
- c. important types of stressful experiences through life change checklists
- d. the presence of illness among certain types of people

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