Name _____

Practice in Identifying Variables

1. A teacher allowed his third period class to eat snacks while taking an exam. His fourth period class was not allowed to eat snacks while taking the same exam. He compared the test averages from both classes.

    a. What is the constant variable? _____

    b. What is the manipulated variable? _____

    c. What is the responding variable? _____

2. The Perfect Paper Company wants to increase their sales of paper cups. They set up a test program in local supermarkets. Identical 8 ounce paper cups were packaged in two ways—half of the stock was packaged in plain boxes, while the other half of the stock was packaged in bright, cheery, pastel-colored boxes. The company recorded which type package sold more over a period of 6 months.

    a. What is the constant? _____

    b. What is the manipulated variable? _____

    c. What is the responding variable? _____

3. A group of scientists are testing the hypothesis that people learn more when they study in a quiet versus a noisy place. Both groups were given the same lesson to learn. Test scores were recorded.

    a. What is the manipulated variable? _____

    b. What is the responding variable? _____

    c. What is the constant _____

4. A group of college students were given a short course in speed-reading. The instructor was curious if money would have an effect on performance on a reading test taken at the end of the course. Half the students were offered $5 for obtaining a certain level of performance on the test, the other half were not offered money.

    a. What is the manipulated variable? _____

    b. What is the responding variable? _____

    c. What is the constant? _____