**Study questions for: *Gary Goertz and James Mahoney, A Tale of Two Cultures: Qualitative and Quantitative Research in Social Sciences.* Chapters 1 and 3.**

1. In readings about methods, you often come across the word *inference* or a related verb *infer.* Look these two up in the Longman Dictionary Online (*ldoceonline.com*). What does the word mean?
2. Goertz and Mahoney differ from King, Keohane and Verba (and their book *Designing Social Inquiry*) in their view of qualitative methods. Specifically, they differ in how they view the relationship between qualitative and quantitative methods. What is the difference?
3. Is mixed-method research possible according to Goertz and Mahoney?
4. Do Goertz and Mahoney include all varieties of qualitative research under their definition of qualitative research? Or do they leave out a type of qualitative research?
5. According to Goertz and Mahoney, are both the qualitative and quantitative traditions useful in answering research questions about causality? Or is one of these traditions not useful in answering causal research questions?
6. What characterizes qualitative research? Is the number of cases the key thing here?
7. Why do quantitative methods require a lot of cases?
8. One of the approaches (qualitative or quantitative) emphasizes the effects of individual independent variables. The other approach, on the other hand, emphasizes explaining the dependent variable as a whole, instead of focusing on individual causes. Which description fits what approach?
9. One of the two approaches wants to provide a general explanation *and* explain the individual cases. The other approach is interested in providing a general explanation and is almost not at all interested in individual cases. Which of these two descriptions fits the qualitative and which fits the quantitative approach?
10. What does a typical research question in each of the two approaches look like?