Mnemonic Devices Used by Wuensch’s Students When Studying Internal and External Validity:

From Harold Wise

Internal Threats to Validity:

A Dental Surgeon Specialist (DSS) named Smith wrote a Rx to Him

= DSS SMITH Rx HIM

S Selection
M Maturation
I Instrumentation
T Testing
H History

D Differential Mortality
SR Statistical Regression
Sx Selection X
H History
I Instrumentation
M Maturation

External Threats to Validity:

That DSS named Smith has a first name that starts with a “T”

= MRS T

M Multiple Treatment
R Reactive Effects
S Selection x Treatment (S T)
T Testing x Treatment

Extraneous Variable Control:

MR CBS

M Matching
R Randomization
C Constancy
B Balancing
S Statistical Control
Making Inferences About Parameters:

CURSe

C  Consistency
U  Unbiasedness
R  Resistance
S  Sufficiency
E  Efficiency, Relative

From Rhonda Breed

Internal Validity

His mother thought I started seeing different men.

History
Mother--Maturation
Thought--Testing
I--Instrumentation
Started--Statistical Regression
Seeing--Selection
Different men--Differential Mortality

External Validity

I saw Santa drinking a Martini and smoking Reefer on TNT.

Selection x treatment = Santa
Reactive effects of experimental arrangement = Reefer
Multiple Treatment Interference = Martini
Test x Treatment = TNT