

CANDIDATE
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PSYCHOLOGY

9990/22

Paper 2 Research Methods

October/November 2019

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your centre number, candidate number and name in the spaces at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **9** printed pages and **3** blank pages.

Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 From the study by Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans):

(a) Identify the main research method used in this study.

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..... [1]

(b) Explain **one** advantage of using this research method in this study.

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..... [2]

2 A hypothesis in a study states 'Recall will be better after a short delay than after a long delay'.

(a) Is this a directional (one-tailed) or a non-directional (two-tailed) hypothesis?

Include a reason for your answer.

.....
..... [1]

(b) (i) Suggest **one** way to operationalise 'recall' in this study.

.....
..... [1]

(ii) Suggest **one** way to operationalise 'short delay and long delay' in this study.

.....
..... [1]

3 Explain what is meant by a 'sample', using an example from a core study from the biological approach.

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..... [2]

4 In the study by Milgram (obedience), the 'primary dependent variable' was voltage.

(a) Explain **two** ways in which this measure was valid.

1

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2

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..... [4]

(b) Explain **one** way in which this measure was **not** valid.

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.....
..... [2]

5 (a) State what is meant by 'participant variables'.

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..... [1]

(b) Suggest **one** participant variable that could have been important in the study by Schachter and Singer (two factors in emotion).

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..... [1]

6 Describe **one** similarity and **one** difference between an independent measures design and a repeated measures design, using any examples.

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Section B

Answer **all** questions in this section.

7 Dr Shah is conducting a naturalistic observation in a children’s play area.

(a) Suggest **two** ways that Dr Shah could make her study ethical.

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2

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[4]

(b) State why this study is a ‘naturalistic observation’.

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..... [1]

(c) Suggest how Dr Shah could conduct her study if she were a covert, non-participant observer.

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..... [4]

8 Sonia is conducting a study using drivers queueing in traffic. Her hypothesis is ‘There will be a positive correlation between frustration and anger in drivers’. Sonia measures anger by asking each driver to rate how angry they feel on a rating scale from 0 (calm) to 5 (very angry).

(a) Suggest **one** way that Sonia could measure frustration in this study, other than using a rating scale.

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..... [2]

(b) Explain **one** strength of using the measure of frustration you have suggested in part (a).

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..... [2]

(c) Write a null hypothesis for Sonia’s study.

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..... [1]

(d) Identify a measure of central tendency that Sonia could use on her ‘anger’ data.

Include a reason for your answer.

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.....
..... [2]

9 Zach is planning a study using laboratory rats to investigate whether they will copy a rat which acts as a model by eating unusual foods. He is aware of the ethical guidelines for using animals in experiments.

(a) Suggest **one** reason why it is more ethical for Zach to test the copying of eating behaviour rather than the copying of aggression.

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..... [2]

(b) Suggest **one** practical reason why the rat is a good species to choose for this study.

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..... [2]

(c) Zach decides to measure the effect of the model by observing the similarities in eating behaviour between the learner rat and the model rat.

Explain whether this measure is valid.

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..... [2]

(d) Explain **one** strength of observations.

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..... [2]

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..... [10]

(b) Identify **one** practical weakness/limitation with the procedure you have described in your answer to part (a) and suggest how your study might be done differently to overcome the problem.

Do **not** refer to ethics or sampling in your answer.

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..... [4]

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