

Activity 7: Marking practice

Paper 1

Using the mark scheme, identify the marks that would have been awarded to each candidate.

From the study by Laney et al., explain why the study was carried out. [2]	Marks awarded out of 2
Candidate A To see whether false memories that are good can be given to a person.	
Candidate B To test if positive false memories for asparagus can be implanted and then increase how much they liked asparagus.	
Candidate C They found that the students did receive course credits when they completed the questionnaire and 22% indicated a memory for asparagus. This supported the aim that false memories can be implanted into a person about loving asparagus.	
Candidate D To test out human memory and how it works.	
Discuss at least two strengths and two weaknesses of the Piliavin et al. study. [8 marks]	Marks awarded out of 8
Candidate A The setting was a subway train and this increases the ecological validity of the study. Being on a subway train and seeing some in distress is something that could happen on a daily basis therefore natural everyday behaviours should have been seen in the participants. However, there are ethical problems with this study. Due to the set up no one knew that they were participating in a study so no one had given their permission to be used in it. This breaks the guideline of gaining informed consent by giving them enough details about the study to allow them to give their permission to take part in it. Another weakness is it would be difficult to generalise past the sample itself as they were all urban dwellers who were used to travelling on a subway train. People in urban areas are more used to deindividuating so other situations may not be the same.	
Candidate B Experimenters worked in teams of four, two females to record the results, and two males who would play the roles of victim and model helper. There were four teams, one containing a black male. All victims were male aged 26–35. Three of them were white and one was black. For each trial, one of the observers noted the race, sex and location of every person in the critical area. Also, the total number of people in the subway car was counted and the total number of people who gave help. Piliavin admitted that the situation they set up was unusual in that their participants were trapped in a carriage with a collapsed person and therefore could not just leave the situation – this means that the findings may not be applicable to events where a witness can escape.	

Paper 2

Using the mark scheme, identify the marks that would have been awarded to each candidate.

A hypothesis in a study says 'Emotions will differ following exposure to a happy or an angry stooge.' Is this a directional (one-tailed) or a non-directional (two-tailed) hypothesis? Include a reason in your answer. [1]	Marks awarded out of 1
Candidate A Non-directional.	
Candidate B Directional as they are looking to see if the happy stooge makes people more emotional.	
Candidate C Non-directional as a difference is predicted but not a direction.	
Candidate D Directional as a there is no direction but a definite difference.	
Sakri thinks that the way he scores the participants' answers may differ from the way Hilja scores them. Suggest how Sakri can test whether he and Hilja are reliable in their scoring of the questionnaire. [3]	Marks awarded out of 3
Candidate A They could get an expert to look at their questionnaire and see if it is measuring what they both think it is measuring. They could then advise them on which questions to keep and which ones to re-write or delete.	
Candidate B Sakri could correlate his scores with Hilja for the same questionnaires. They could then plot their pairs of scores in a scattergram and see if there is any positive relationship between their scores for the same questionnaire.	
Candidate C They could conduct a test-retest analysis of the questionnaire. They can get the same participants to complete the same questionnaire about one month apart. They could then correlate these scores and plot them on a scattergraph. If a positive correlation is seen then the questionnaire is reliable and they could even calculate a correlation coefficient. This would ensure that their scores are reliable.	