

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
AS GCE
G541/01
PSYCHOLOGY
Psychological Investigations
MONDAY 11 MAY 2015:
Afternoon
DURATION: 1 hour
plus your additional time allowance
MODIFIED ENLARGED 24pt

Candidate forename						Candidate surname				
Centre number						Candidate number				

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

OCR SUPPLIED MATERIALS:

None

OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED:

None

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes on the first page. Please write clearly and in capital letters.

Use black ink. HB pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.

Answer ALL the questions in Sections A, B and C.

Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined page(s) at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

The total number of marks for this paper is 60.

Quality of written communication is assessed throughout this paper.

Any blank pages are indicated.

BLANK PAGE

SECTION A

Answer ALL questions

Does music sound better at night? Some research suggests that when seeing gets more difficult as light levels fall, our sense of hearing becomes more sensitive. To investigate this psychologists conducted a laboratory experiment using ten participants. First they sat in a room illuminated by natural daylight and were played an extract of classical music. One hour later the same participants sat in a dark room with no window and were played another piece of classical music. On each occasion participants had to rate how clear the music sounded on a scale of 1 (very unclear) to 10 (very clear).

1 (a) Identify the experimental design used in this study.

[2]

[illegible]

2 Identify and evaluate how the dependent variable has been operationalised in this study.

[4]

3 (a) Explain how you would calculate the mean of how clear the music sounded in each condition of this experiment.

_____ [4]

(b) When would the median be more appropriate and why?

_____ [4]

SECTION B

Answer ALL questions

Space invaders. People often feel uncomfortable when strangers sit next to them, like on a bus, and invade their personal space. In such circumstances people often use territorial markers to indicate they would not like anyone to sit next to them, such as placing their coat on the empty seat at their side. To investigate this psychologists used the observational method to study the use of territorial markers by passengers on a bus. The data collected is presented below.

Frequency of use of territorial markers by passengers on a bus journey	
Places coat on empty seat	12
Puts bag on empty seat	8
Stretches legs out across empty seat	3
Sits in the middle of two seats	2
Puts arm out across empty seat	5

4 Outline TWO findings from the data in this table.

[4]

5 Describe ONE ethical issue that the researchers needed to consider when conducting this observation and suggest how this could be dealt with.

[4]

6 (a) What sampling method is used in this study and how do you know this?

[2]

(b) Identify ONE strength and ONE weakness of using this sampling method in this study.

[4]

[illegible]

SECTION C

Answer ALL questions.

Help! I need somebody. But why is it that people don't always receive help when they need it? Psychologists want to investigate this using the self-report method.

8 (a) What is random sampling?

[2]

(b) Suggest ONE strength of using random sampling in this study.

[3]

9 Describe and evaluate a suitable procedure for this study.

[illegible]

[10]

10 (a) Suggest ONE change that could be made to the way this study is conducted that still uses the self-report method.

[2]

(b) Outline one effect this change may have.

[3]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

ADDITIONAL ANSWER SPACE

If additional answer space is required, you should use the following lined page(s). The question number(s) must be clearly shown in the margins.

[illegible]

