



GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGY

Research in Psychology

B543



Candidates answer on the Question Paper

OCR Supplied Materials:

None

Other Materials Required:

None

Thursday 27 May 2010

Morning

Duration: 1 hour



Candidate Forename					Candidate Surname				
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Centre Number						Candidate Number			
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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the boxes above.
- Use black ink. Pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided. Additional answer space is available on the lined page at the back of the book. Answers on this page must be clearly numbered.

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 **40**.
- This document consists of **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

SECTION A – PLANNING, DOING AND ANALYSING RESEARCH

Answer **all** questions.

The Source

A psychologist wanted to investigate whether there are gender differences in the levels of aggression shown by primary school children. He asked a primary school teacher to choose six girls and six boys from her class. The psychologist and two of his colleagues then spent five days observing the children as they played in the playground during their mid morning break.

The observers recorded the number of verbally aggressive and physically aggressive acts shown by the children.

The results are displayed below.

Table 1

The mean number of verbally and physically aggressive acts recorded.

	Physically Aggressive	Verbally Aggressive
Boys	25	21
Girls	14	19

- 1 Give the aim of the study in the source.

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

- 2 State an alternate hypothesis for this study.

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

- 3 The psychologist used an opportunity sample.

- (a) Describe **one** weakness of using an opportunity sample for this study.

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[2]

- (b) State **one** other sampling method the psychologist could have used other than opportunity sampling.

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[1]

- 4 Using the data in the source, give the mean number of physically aggressive acts that were shown by the boys.

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[1]

- 5 State **one** finding of the study in the source.

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[1]

- 6 The psychologist used quantitative data rather than qualitative data.
State what quantitative data is.

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[1]

- 7 The researcher used an observation. One other method he could have used is an interview.
Outline **one** weakness of the interview method.

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[2]

- 8 The study raises a number of ethical issues. Look at the diagram below. Draw a line to match each ethical issue to its correct definition.

Ethical Issue	Definition
Consent	Participants should know that they can leave the study at any time
Right to withdraw	Participants have the right to not be harmed in a study
Confidentiality	Participants should agree to taking part in a study
	Participants have the right to expect that information they provide will not be given to others

[3]

- 9 The psychologist carried out a covert observation.
Explain the difference between a covert and overt observation.

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[3]

- 10 The psychologist used a non-participant observation.
Describe **one** strength of a non-participant observation.

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[2]

- 11 (a) Outline what is meant by the term inter-rater reliability.

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[2]

- (b) Explain how inter-rater reliability would have been achieved in this study.

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[2]

- 12 Explain what is meant by gender bias in research.

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[2]

Section total: 25 marks

SECTION B – PLANNING AN INVESTIGATION

You have been asked to carry out an **experiment** to investigate whether noise affects task performance. The theory is that people will have more trouble completing a task when there is a lot of background noise than when it is silent.

- 13 (a) State a null hypothesis for your investigation.

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[2]

- (b) Identify who you would use as your participants and give one reason why you would choose them.

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[2]

- (c) Briefly outline how you would carry out an experiment to investigate whether noise affects task performance.

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[3]

- (d) Explain **one** control you would use in this investigation.

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..... [3]

- (e) Describe **one** ethical issue you would have to consider when investigating the effects of noise.

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..... [2]

- (f) Describe **one** weakness of using an experiment in this investigation.

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..... [3]

Section total: 15 marks

Paper Total: 40 marks

If you use this lined page to complete the answer to any question, the question number(s) must be clearly shown.



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