

Surname	Centre Number	Candidate Number
First name(s)		2



**GCE A LEVEL**

A290U20-1



**THURSDAY, 25 MAY 2023 – AFTERNOON**

**PSYCHOLOGY – A level component 2**  
**Psychology: Investigating Behaviour**

2 hours 15 minutes

For Examiner's use only		
Question	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
1.	3	
2.	7	
3.	7	
4.	4	
5.	4	
6.	4	
7.	5	
8.	12	
9.	16	
10.	14	
11.	11	
12.	13	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this paper you may require a calculator and a ruler.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

You may use a pencil for graphs and diagrams only.

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

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. Additional space is provided for some questions within the booklet (if required). If further space is required for any question, you should use the additional page(s) at the back of the booklet, taking care to number the question(s) correctly.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

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

You are reminded of the necessity for good English and orderly presentation in your answers.

Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.



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**SECTION A – Principles of Research**

Answer **all** questions.

1. Identify which type of variable is being described in the following statements:

(a) Variables in a study that are not being measured or manipulated by the researcher but affect the results of all participants' behaviour equally. [1]

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(b) Variables in a study that are not being measured or manipulated by the researcher, that affect some participants' behaviour but not others. [1]

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(c) The variable the psychologist manipulates and controls to see how it affects behaviour. [1]

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2. (a) Explain what is meant by the term 'significance level'. [2]

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(b) Explain what is meant by ' $p \leq 0.01$ '. [2]

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(c) Explain why a psychological researcher might use a  $p$  value of  $p \leq 0.01$  rather than  $p \leq 0.05$ . [2]

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(d) Explain the difference between the meaning of the symbol  $\leq$  and  $<$ . [1]

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4. Explain the following ways of assessing reliability in psychological research:

(a) 'Test-retest reliability'.

[2]

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(b) 'Split-half reliability'.

[2]

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5. Explain **two** advantages of conducting psychological research in the field compared to a laboratory environment.

[2 + 2]

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(c) (i) Explain **one** issue of validity in your content analysis. [2]

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(ii) Explain how you dealt with the issue of validity identified in (c)(i). [2]

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(d) (i) Explain **one** issue of reliability in your content analysis. [2]

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(ii) Explain how you dealt with the issue of reliability identified in (d)(i). [2]

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**INVESTIGATION TWO:** A questionnaire on pet ownership and stress

10. (a) Explain how you operationalised 'stress' in your investigation. [2]

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(b) (i) Explain **one** ethical issue which you considered in your investigation. [2]

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(ii) Explain how you managed the ethical issue identified in (b)(i). [2]

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(iii) Apart from ethical issues, explain **one** strength and **one** weakness of using a questionnaire in this investigation. [2 + 2]

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**SECTION C – Application of research methods to a novel scenario**

Answer **all** questions.

11. Psychological research has shown that a memory of an event can be influenced by information received after the event.

Two days after visiting a museum, 40 people went to a laboratory, where they were randomly allocated into one of two groups. Participants in Group A answered questions in a room with a picture of Queen Victoria wearing a white dress and participants in Group B answered questions in a room without any pictures. One question was: “What was the colour of Queen Victoria’s dress in the museum?”. The correct answer was blue.

**Figure 1: Responses to the question “What was the colour of Queen Victoria’s dress in the museum?”**

Response	Number of participants who stated this colour	
	Group A: room with a picture of Queen Victoria wearing a white dress	Group B: room without any pictures
Blue	6	10
White	11	6
Another colour	3	4
Total	20	20

- (a) State **one** appropriate conclusion that can be drawn from the findings in this research (displayed in **Figure 1**). [2]

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- (b) (i) Identify which measure of central tendency would be appropriate to describe this data (as displayed in **Figure 1**). [1]

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(ii) Explain why this is the most appropriate measure of central tendency for this data. [2]

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(iii) Analyse the data in Group B using the measure of central tendency identified in (b)(i). [2]

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- (c) A Chi Square test was carried out and the calculated value was 5.78. The degrees of freedom are 2. Using an appropriate critical value from the table below (**Figure 2**), justify whether the researcher should accept or reject the null hypothesis. [4]

**Figure 2: Critical values for Chi Square test**

Degrees of freedom (df)	0.05
1	3.84
2	5.99
3	7.81
4	9.49
5	11.07
6	12.59

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12. A researcher was asked to report on the effectiveness of a campaign to reduce harmful emissions into the environment. A sample was selected from students aged 13 to 16 years who lived within a safe walking distance of the school and currently travelled by car.

The students were asked to watch the campaign video and then given a questionnaire to measure their attitude towards environmental change. They were then asked to walk to school for a month. The score on the attitude scale and the number of days out of the month in which they walked to school are shown in the table below.

**Figure 3: Students' scores on the attitude scale and the number of days they walked to school.**

Student	Score on a scale of 1–20 measuring positive attitudes to environmental change	Number of days walked to school out of the 20 school days in the month
1	7	9
2	7	12
3	5	2
4	8	9
5	12	14
6	9	12
7	18	20
8	12	16
9	11	12
10	16	18

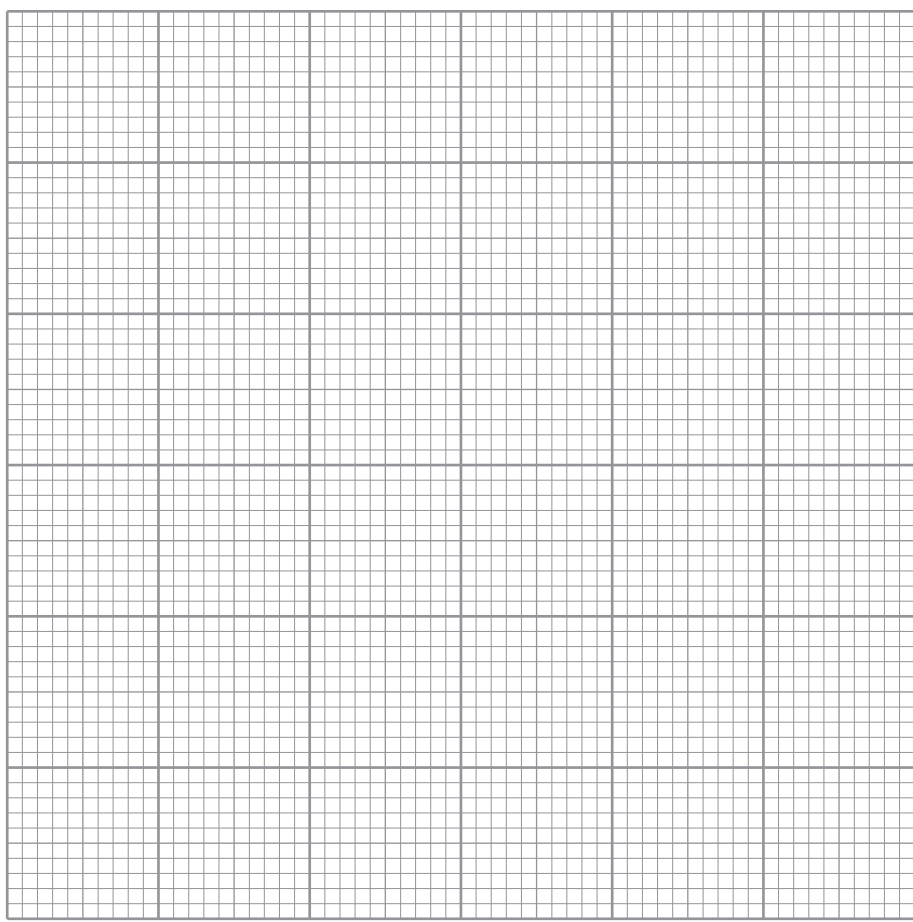


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(a) (i) Identify **one** appropriate graphical representation that could be used to display the data in this research. [1]

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(ii) Using the graphical representation that you identified in (a)(i), display the data in this research. [4]



(b) Identify the level of measurement of the 'scores on the attitude scale' in this research. [1]

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- (c) (i) Identify **one** appropriate measure of dispersion for the data 'number of days walked to school' in this research. [1]

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- (ii) Justify why the measure of dispersion identified in (c) (i) is appropriate for 'number of days walked to school'. [2]

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- (d) Explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using a self-selecting sampling technique. [2 + 2]

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**END OF PAPER**









