



GCE A level

1333/01



S16-1333-01

PSYCHOLOGY – PY3

Research Methods and Issues in Research

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 8 June 2016

1 hour 30 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **all** questions in Section A and Section B and **two** questions from Section C.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

Note the information given at the start of every section.

SECTION A

Read the following material and answer **all** the questions that follow.
You are advised to spend at least 5 minutes reading the information provided.

1. A psychologist was interested in how gender affects young children's interactions with each other. The psychologist measured aggressive and non-aggressive play by carrying out a non-participant observation of a group of twenty children as they played in a park on a Saturday morning. The psychologist observed same gender and opposite gender play. The sample was chosen using opportunity sampling.

The results from the observation are shown below.

Situation	Aggressive play	Non-aggressive play
Same gender	12	14
Opposite gender	2	8

- (a) (i) Define what is meant by the term 'non-participant observation'. [2]
- (ii) Explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using a non-participant observation. [4]
- (b) (i) Define what is meant by the term 'operationalisation' of a variable. [2]
- (ii) Identify **two** ways 'aggressive play' could have been operationalised in the above study. [2]
- (c) Define what is meant by the term 'qualitative data'. [2]
- (d) Define what is meant by the term 'inter-rater reliability'. [2]
- (e) Explain **one** issue of reliability that may have arisen in the above study. [2]
- (f) (i) Define what is meant by the term 'opportunity sampling'. [2]
- (ii) Explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using opportunity sampling to select participants in research. [4]
- (g) Identify and explain **two** ethical issues that may arise in psychological research with children. [4]

Total 26 marks

SECTION B

*Read the following material and answer **all** the questions that follow.
You are advised to spend at least 5 minutes reading the information provided.*

2. A researcher was interested in the causes of phobias. A questionnaire containing ten questions was used to collect data on this subject. Nine of the questions were closed questions and the tenth was an open question. The questionnaire was given to twenty university students chosen by volunteer (self-selecting) sampling.
- (a) Explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of a questionnaire. [4]
- (b) (i) Define what is meant by the term 'closed question'. [2]
(ii) Define what is meant by the term 'open question'. [2]
- (c) Identify and explain how **one** confounding variable may have affected the validity of the answers given in the above study. [2]
- (d) Define what is meant by the term 'quantitative data'. [2]
- (e) (i) Define what is meant by the term 'volunteer (self-selecting) sampling'. [2]
(ii) Explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using volunteer (self-selecting) sampling. [4]
- (f) Data from the questionnaires suggested that many of the participants felt that phobias were learnt from the media. The psychologist decided to test this in a laboratory experiment.
- (i) Define what is meant by the term 'laboratory experiment'. [2]
(ii) Write an appropriate experimental hypothesis for this experiment, as described in part (f). [2]
(iii) Write an appropriate null hypothesis for this experiment, as described in part (f). [2]

Total 24 marks

SECTION C

Answer **two** of the following questions.

3. “There are many ethical issues in the use of human participants in research in psychology.”
Discuss and evaluate this statement. [15]
4. Describe and evaluate ethical issues in the use of non-human participants in research in psychology. [15]
5. Describe and evaluate the advantages of the use of the scientific method in psychology. [15]

END OF PAPER