

Q1.

Which **two** of the following best describe Zimbardo's prison study?

Shade **two** boxes only.

- A** Controlled observation ☐
- B** Covert observation ☐
- C** Laboratory experiment ☐
- D** Natural experiment ☐
- E** Participant observation ☐

(Total 2 marks)

Q2.

Psychologists often observe the behaviour of children.

Suggest how you could carry out an observation of obedient behaviour in Year 5 primary school children.

In your answer, you will be awarded credit for providing appropriate details about the following:

- the type of observation you would carry out
- **at least two** examples of appropriate operationalised behavioural categories you would observe
- the behavioural sampling method you would use for your observations.

[illegible]

(Total 6 marks)

Q3.

A controlled observation was designed to compare the social behaviours of pre-school children of working parents and pre-school children of stay-at-home parents. The sample consisted of 100 children aged three, who were observed separately. Half of the children had working parents and the other half had stay-at-home parents.

The observation took place in a room which looked like a nursery, with a variety of toys available. In the room, there were four children and one supervising adult. Their behaviour was not recorded.

Each child participant was brought into the room and settled by their parent. The parent then left to sit outside. Each child participant's behaviour was observed covertly for five minutes while they played in the room.

The observation was conducted in a controlled environment and a standardised script was used when the children and their parents arrived.

Explain why the researcher used a controlled observation **and** a standardised script in this study.

(Total 4 marks)

Q4.

Identify **one** limitation of controlled observations.

(Total 1 mark)

Q5.

A controlled observation was designed to compare the social behaviours of pre-school children of working parents and pre-school children of stay-at-home parents. The sample consisted of 100 children aged three, who were observed separately. Half of the children had working parents and the other half had stay-at-home parents. The observation took place in a room which looked like a nursery, with a variety of toys available.

In the room, there were four children and one supervising adult. Their behaviour was not recorded.

Each child participant was brought into the room and settled by their parent. The parent then left to sit outside. Each child participant’s behaviour was observed covertly for five minutes while they played in the room.

The observation was conducted in a controlled environment and a standardised script was used when the children and their parents arrived.

The researcher used two trained observers to record the social behaviours of each child during the observation.

Give **two** behavioural categories that the observers could have used in the observation to assess the pre-school children’s social behaviour. Explain why your chosen categories are appropriate.

(Total 4 marks)

Q6.

A controlled observation was designed to compare the social behaviours of pre-school children of working parents and pre-school children of stay-at-home parents. The sample consisted of 100 children aged three, who were observed separately. Half of the children had working parents and the other half had stay-at-home parents. The observation took place in a room which looked like a nursery, with a variety of toys available.

In the room, there were four children and one supervising adult. Their behaviour was not recorded.

Each child participant was brought into the room and settled by their parent. The parent then left to sit outside. Each child participant’s behaviour was observed covertly for five minutes while they played in the room.

The observation was conducted in a controlled environment and a standardised script was used when the children and their parents arrived.

The researcher used two trained observers to record the social behaviours of each child box during the observation.

Describe how the observers could use time sampling to record the social behaviour of each child during the five-minute period.

(Total 4 marks)

Q7.

A controlled observation was designed to compare the social behaviours of pre-school children of working parents and pre-school children of stay-at-home parents. The sample consisted of 100 children aged three, who were observed separately. Half of the children had working parents and the other half had stay-at-home parents. The observation took place in a room which looked like a nursery, with a variety of toys available.

In the room, there were four children and one supervising adult. Their behaviour was not recorded.

Each child participant was brought into the room and settled by their parent. The parent then left to sit outside. Each child participant’s behaviour was observed covertly for five minutes while they played in the room.

The observation was conducted in a controlled environment and a standardised script was used when the children and their parents arrived.

The researcher used two trained observers to record the social behaviours of each child box during the observation.

Explain **one** strength and **one** limitation of using time sampling for this observation.

(Total 4 marks)

Q8.

Two psychology students investigated the effect of type of play area on friendly behaviours. They watched the behaviour of six-year-old children in two different play areas and recorded their observations using a set of behavioural categories. They observed 25 children in the first play area and another 25 children in a second play area.

Play Area 1 was a grass space, surrounded by trees and plants.
Play Area 2 was a paved space, surrounded by brick and concrete walls.

- (a) What are behavioural categories? Explain why it was important to use behavioural categories in this observation.

(4)

The table below shows the raw data for the observation.

	The number of friendly behaviours observed in each category		
	Playing near to another child	Standing near to another child	Sitting near to another child
Play Area 1 Grass space	28	35	32
Play Area 2 Paved space	18	19	20

After the observation, the students showed their raw data table to their psychology teacher.
The teacher suggested that some of the behavioural categories in the table above were not valid examples of friendly behaviour.

- (b) Suggest **two** better examples of friendly behaviours that the students could have used in their observation. Explain why these might be more valid examples of friendly behaviour than the behaviours in the table.

(4)

When she looks at the results in the table, the teacher says, "I can see there is a difference in behaviour between the two conditions, but is the difference significant at the 0.05 level of significance?"

- (c) What do the students need to do with the data in the table above so that they can answer their teacher's question? Explain your answer.

(4)

In this study, the students used a nomothetic approach for their research.

- (d) Name the opposite approach to the nomothetic approach. Briefly outline what this opposite approach might have involved in a study of friendly behaviour.

(3)

(Total 15 marks)

Q9.

Studies of attachment often involve naturalistic observations.

Suggest **one** way in which studies of attachment could be improved by using controlled observations.

(Total 3 marks)

Q10.

The feedback from a school was that recreational screen time affected pupils' social interactions. A psychologist decided to investigate this further by using an observation of social interaction during playtime at the school.

Design the observation to investigate pupils' social interaction in the playground.

In your answer you will be awarded credit for providing appropriate details of:

- type of observation, with justification
- choice of time sampling **or** event sampling, with justification
- dealing with **one** relevant ethical issue
- assessing reliability of the data through inter-observer reliability.

You may use this space to plan your answer.

(Total 12 marks)