



**GCE AS/A level**

1332/01

**PSYCHOLOGY – PY2  
PSYCHOLOGY: CORE STUDIES  
AND APPLIED RESEARCH METHODS**

P.M. TUESDAY, 7 June 2011

1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours

**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.

Answer **all** parts of **either** Question 7 **or** Question 8 in Section C.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

Mark allocations are shown in brackets.

Note the information given at the start of every section.

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in answers for all questions in Section A.

**SECTION A**

*Answer **all** questions in this section.*

*You are reminded that the focus of your response must be the skill of knowledge and understanding.*

1. Summarise the aims **and** context of Gardner and Gardner's (1969) research '*Teaching Sign Language to a Chimpanzee*'. [12]
2. Outline the procedures of Buss's (1989) research '*Sex differences in human mate preferences*'. [12]
3. Describe the findings **and** conclusions of Asch's (1955) research '*Opinions and Social Pressure*'. [12]

**SECTION B**

*Answer **all** questions in this section.*

*You are reminded that the focus of your response must be the skill of analysis and evaluation.*

4. Evaluate the methodology of Langer and Rodin's (1976) research '*The effects of choice and enhanced personal responsibility for the aged: A field experiment in an institutional setting*'. [12]
5. Evaluate the methodology of Rahe, Mahan and Arthur's (1970) research '*Prediction of near-future health change from subjects' preceding life changes*'. [12]
6. With reference to alternative evidence, critically assess Gibson & Walk's (1960) research '*The Visual Cliff*'. [12]

## SECTION C

Answer **all** parts of **either** question 7 **or** question 8.

You are reminded that the focus of your response must be the application of knowledge of research methods to the novel situation.

**Either,**

7. A psychologist is conducting a natural experiment to investigate the effects of debt on the examination results of university students. The examination results of students who have low levels of debt (less than £5000) and students who have high levels of debt (more than £12,000) were investigated. The psychologist is using a self-selected (volunteer) sample of students. The psychologist calculated the median examination results which were then put into a table (see below).

	Median examination results (maximum mark = 100)
Students with low levels of debt	78
Students with high levels of debt	71

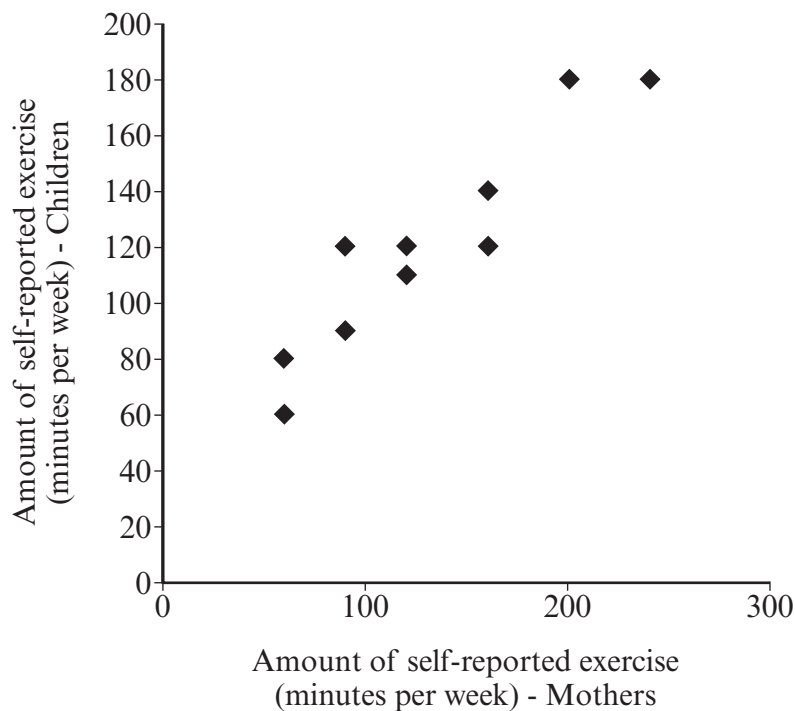
- (a) Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using a natural experiment in this research. [3]
- (b) Identify **one** issue of reliability in this research and describe how you could deal with this issue of reliability. [3]
- (c) Identify **one** issue of validity in this research and describe how you could deal with this issue of validity. [3]
- (d) Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of self-selected (volunteer) sampling in this research. [3]
- (e) Discuss **one** ethical issue that might arise in this research. [3]
- (f) State **one** conclusion that can be drawn from the median scores in this research. [3]

**QUESTION 8 IS ON THE NEXT PAGE**

SECTION C (*continued*)

Or,

8. A team of psychologists are conducting an investigation to see if there is a correlation between the amount of self-reported exercise that a child does in a week and how much exercise is done by their mother. The mothers and their children were chosen by using a systematic sample in a primary school. The psychologists then displayed the amount of exercise that the mothers and children do in a week in a scattergraph (see below).



- (a) Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using a correlation in this research. [3]
- (b) Identify **one** issue of reliability in this research and describe how you could deal with this issue of reliability. [3]
- (c) Identify **one** issue of validity in this research and describe how you could deal with this issue of validity. [3]
- (d) Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of systematic sampling in this research. [3]
- (e) Discuss **one** ethical issue that might arise in this research. [3]
- (f) State **one** conclusion that can be drawn from the scattergraph in this research. [3]