



GCE A level

1333/01

PSYCHOLOGY – PY3

RESEARCH METHODS AND ISSUES IN RESEARCH

P.M. TUESDAY, 9 June 2015

1 hour 30 minutes plus your additional time allowance

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.

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. **Students wanted to study helping behaviour. They decided to carry out a field experiment. In the experiment a mobile phone was left on a park bench. When it was picked up by a passer-by, one of the researchers who was watching nearby rang the phone. In condition A the researcher explained it was their mobile phone and politely asked if it could be returned to them. In condition B the researcher stated it was their mobile phone and demanded rudely that it be returned to them. The students' experimental hypothesis was: 'the way the researcher asks for the return of the mobile phone will affect the number of phones returned.'**

The table below shows the results.

	Condition A	Condition B
Number of phones returned	8	1

- 1(a) (i) Define what is meant by the term ‘field experiment’. [2]**
- (ii) Explain ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of a field experiment. [4]**
- (b) Define what is meant by the term ‘experimental/alternative hypothesis’. [2]**
- (c) Identify:**
- (i) the independent variable (IV) in the above study; [1]**
- (ii) the dependent variable (DV) in the above study. [1]**
- (d) The results were found to be significant at the 5% level. Explain what this means. [2]**

- 1(e) State an appropriate directional hypothesis for the above study. [2]
- (f) (i) Define what is meant by the term 'mode'. [2]
- (ii) Give ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of using the mode. [4]
- (g) Describe what is meant by:
- (i) 'a lack of informed consent'; [2]
- (ii) 'deception'. [2]

TOTAL 24 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. Researchers were interested in the treatment of schizophrenia. The researchers carried out a series of interviews with five clinical psychologists in a range of settings. These settings all differed in how well funded or how well staffed they were. They asked each clinical psychologist the same ten open questions about their treatment of schizophrenia. The clinical psychologists were chosen in each setting by using systematic sampling.**
- (a) (i) Define what is meant by the term ‘interview’. [2]**
- (ii) Explain ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of using open questions in an interview. [4]**
- (iii) Interviews can produce quantitative data. Give ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of quantitative data. [4]**

- 2(b) Define what is meant by the term ‘concurrent validity’. [2]**
- (c) Identify and explain TWO issues that would affect the validity of the answers given by the clinical psychologists. [4]**
- (d) (i) Define what is meant by the term ‘systematic sampling’. [2]**
- (ii) Give ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of systematic sampling. [4]**
- (e) Describe what is meant by:**
- (i) ‘right to withdraw’; [2]**
- (ii) ‘protection from psychological harm’. [2]**

TOTAL 26 MARKS

SECTION C

Answer TWO of the following questions.

- 3. Describe and evaluate how a psychologist would manage ethical issues when using human participants in research. [15]**

- 4. Outline and explain the problems and limitations associated with the use of the scientific method in psychology. [15]**

- 5. Describe and evaluate ethical issues that arise out of two applications of psychology in the real world. [15]**

END OF PAPER