



GCE AS/A level

1332/01

PSYCHOLOGY – PY2

CORE STUDIES AND APPLIED RESEARCH METHODS

P.M. MONDAY, 23 May 2016

1 hour 45 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.

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 skills of knowledge and understanding.

- 1. Summarise the aims AND context of Milgram's (1963) research 'Behavioural study of obedience'. [12]**
- 2. Describe the procedures 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]**
- 3. Describe the findings AND conclusions of Rahe, Mahan and Arthur's (1970) research 'Prediction of near-future health change from subjects' preceding life changes'. [12]**

SECTION B

Answer ALL questions in this section.

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

- 4. Critically assess the methodology of Loftus and Palmer's (1974) research 'Reconstruction of Automobile Destruction: An Example of the Interaction between Language and Memory'. [12]**

- 5. Critically assess the methodology of Gardner and Gardner's (1969) research 'Teaching Sign Language to a Chimpanzee'. [12]**

- 6. With reference to alternative evidence, critically assess Rosenhan's (1973) research 'On Being Sane in Insane Places'. [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 conducted a natural experiment to investigate if exam stress was linked to illness. The researcher asked a self-selected (volunteer) sample of university students to estimate how many days of illness they had during May (just before the start of their exams) and how many days of illness they had during July (after the end of their exams). The psychologist calculated the mode for the number of days ill in May and the mode for the number of days ill in July and presented them in the table below.

Fig. 1. Table showing the modal scores for the number of days ill in May and July

Mode for the number of days ill in May	Mode for the number of days ill in July
3	1

- 7(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 modal scores in this research. [3]**

QUESTION 8 IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

SECTION C (continued)**OR,**

- 8. A team of psychologists wanted to investigate if prisoners in shared prison cells demonstrated more aggressive acts than prisoners who were in single prisoner cells. The psychologists conducted an observation of 20 randomly selected prisoners from shared prison cells and 20 randomly selected prisoners from single prisoner cells. As part of the observation, the psychologists recorded every aggressive act the prisoners demonstrated during one week. They compiled the information into a categorisation table to display their results, which are shown opposite.**

Fig. 2. Categorisation table to show the number and type of aggressive acts demonstrated by prisoners held in either shared prison cells or in single prisoner cells.

	Single prisoner cells	Shared prison cells	Total
Verbal	320	303	623
Physical	12	48	60
Total	332	351	683

- 8(a) Outline ONE advantage and ONE disadvantage of using an observation 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 random sampling used 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 categorisation table in this research. [3]**

END OF PAPER