



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

National Qualifications Framework Levels 1–3, 2005

Psychology

National Moderator's Report

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General Guidance for Assessors of Achievement and Unit Standards

The purpose of external moderation is to provide reassurance that assessor judgments are at the national standard and are made on the basis of assessment materials that are fair and valid.

All assessment materials are expected to:

- give the learner the opportunity to meet the requirements of the standard
- have an assessment schedule that gives evidence of appropriate learner responses and clear judgments at all levels.

The Ministry of Education contracted subject experts to write assessment resources for achievement standards. These are not pre-moderated. The intention is that they are modified to suit teaching programmes and learner needs. They do not provide 'rules' but suggest different ways of assessing to the nationally registered standard.

General Overall Comment

Psychology assessors continue to submit a good standard of assessment tasks and associated judgments with the learner responses. In general, improvements can be made by using a wide range of actual or expected learner responses in the evidence statements of the assessment schedules.

US 19261: *Explore use of scientific method in psychological research*

"Key features of each method" means the **differentiating** features of each method, eg what is **unique** to the case study method compared with other methods? (Element 2)

Note that Criterion 2.2 requires **at least two** *"uses in psychological studies of each method"*.

US 19253: *Describe the cognitive approach to psychology and contributions of key figures*

A technical term alone does not suffice as a description or explanation. Simple descriptive detail should be used to demonstrate an understanding of any specialist terms or processes used, particularly at level 1. For example, short term memory or object permanence should be explicitly or implicitly demonstrated, described, or explained in simple terms.

US 19274: *Use psychological knowledge to examine behaviour within an educational context*

"Psychological knowledge, psychological viewpoint" or *"examples of psychology"* involves accepted **psychological theory or concepts** as outlined in standard psychological publications.

The key to this unit standard is to clearly identify, describe and relate the psychological concepts to the context, application or behaviours concerned.