



Cambridge International AS & A Level

CANDIDATE
NAME

--

CENTRE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--



PSYCHOLOGY

9990/23

Paper 2 Research Methods

May/June 2020

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **12** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 Describe the difference between qualitative and quantitative data.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

2 The study by Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans) was conducted in a subway train.

(a) Suggest **one** advantage of conducting a study in this location.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

(b) Suggest **one** disadvantage of conducting a study in this location.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

3 The study by Saavedra and Silverman (button phobia) was a case study.

Explain the **two** reasons that the case study method was chosen, using examples from this study. Do **not** refer to 'longitudinal' in your answer.

1

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [4]

4 Baron-Cohen et al. (eyes test) collected data from several standardised tests.

(a) State what is meant by 'standardisation'.

.....

..... [1]

(b) State **two** ways that the Eyes Test was standardised.

1

.....

.....

2

.....

..... [2]

5 Descriptive statistics used in studies can include the range and the standard deviation.

(a) State what these descriptive statistics measure.

..... [1]

(b) Explain **one** advantage of the standard deviation compared to the range.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

6 Describe the use of the ethical guidelines of 'numbers' and 'housing' in relation to animals in research, using any examples.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [6]

Section B

Answer **all** questions in this section.

7 Jodie is investigating attitudes to doodling in class. She wants to obtain a sample that includes students and teachers.

(a) Name **one** sampling technique Jodie could use to obtain her sample.

..... [1]

(b) Suggest how Jodie could use this sampling technique to obtain her sample.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

(c) Suggest **one** advantage of using this sampling technique in Jodie’s study.

.....
..... [1]

(d) Explain **one** problem with using this sampling technique in Jodie’s study, compared to **one** other sampling technique.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [3]

8 Todd is using a questionnaire to investigate personality, such as being a calm or anxious person.

(a) Explain what is meant by a 'questionnaire'.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

(b) (i) Suggest **one** open and **one** closed question about personality that Todd could use in his questionnaire.

Open question:

.....

Closed question:

..... [2]

(ii) Explain whether the open or the closed question that you suggested in part (b)(i) would provide more information about personality.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

(c) Describe how Todd could obtain informed consent from the participants in his study.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

9 Arjun and Mary have collected data about aggression in adults using an observation.

(a) They want to know if they have good inter-rater reliability.

Suggest how they would test this for their study.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [3]

(b) Explain why it is important that Arjun and Mary have good inter-rater reliability in their study.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

(c) Suggest **one** advantage of using participant observation in Arjun and Mary's study.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

(d) Suggest **one** disadvantage of using participant observation in Arjun and Mary's study.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [10]

(b) Identify **one** practical weakness/limitation with the procedure you have described in your answer to part (a) and suggest how your study might be done differently to overcome the problem.

Do **not** refer to ethics or sampling in your answer.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [4]

BLANK PAGE

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which itself is a department of the University of Cambridge.