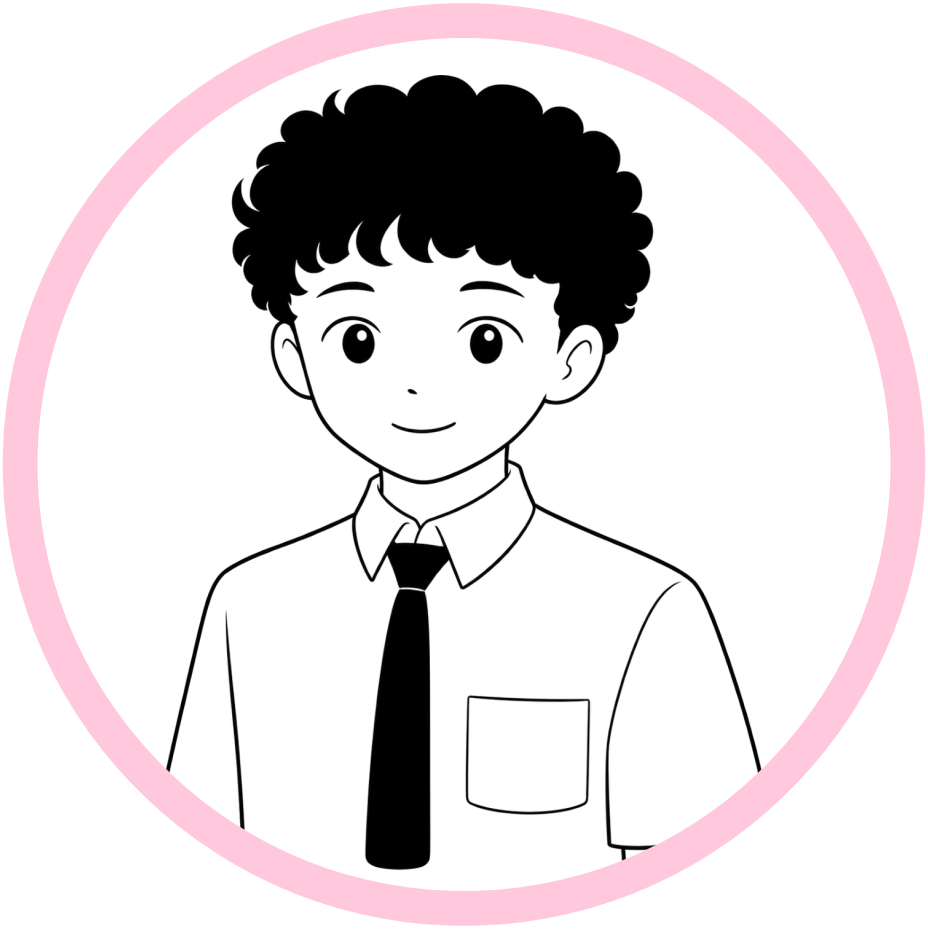
AQA A-LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY · 7182

PSYCHOLOGY



EXAM QUESTION PACK

3.1.2 EYEWITNESS TESTIMONY

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
/201	%

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Q1.

Outline techniques used in the cognitive interview **and** discuss the effectiveness of these techniques on the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

(Total 8 marks)

Q2.

A psychologist was at a concert where someone threw a bottle onto the stage and seriously injured one of the band members. The psychologist decided to use this incident to investigate the accuracy of eye witness testimony. She asked 10 people who saw the bottle being thrown, if they would allow her to interview them about this. A week later she interviewed each witness separately in a quiet room and asked them the same closed questions about what they had seen. She recorded their answers. It took her two and a half hours in total to interview the 10 witnesses.

(a) Calculate how many hours it would have taken the psychologist to interview all 1000 people who were at the event. Show your workings.

(2)

(b) Identify **one** type of data the psychologist collected in this study. Explain your answer.

(2)

(c) Investigator effects may influence this study. Explain how the investigation might be modified to reduce these effects.

(2)

(d) The psychologist submitted a report of her investigation to a journal for peer review. What would she expect the process to involve?

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(2)

(Total 8 marks)

Q3.

Zina witnessed a violent incident. The attacker pulled out a knife and threatened the victim. Zina was close to the attacker and was very frightened and anxious. Her friend, Amanda, was further away and less anxious. The police took witness statements from both Zina and Amanda. Their statements were very different.

(a) Using your knowledge of research into the effects of anxiety on eye-witness testimony, explain why Zina's and Amanda's statements are different.

(4)

(b) A psychologist decided to interview both Zina and Amanda five months later to see if they could still remember the same level of detail about the incident.

Explain **one** ethical issue the psychologist must consider before interviewing Zina and Amanda.

(2)

(Total 6 marks)

Q4.

Outline and evaluate research (theories and/or studies) into the effects of misleading information on eyewitness testimony.

(Total 16 marks)

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Q5.

Below are five evaluative statements about the cognitive interview. Which **two** statements are correct?

Shade **two** boxes only.

The cognitive interview…

A	can only be used in Western cultures.	⬭
B	takes longer than the standard interview.	⬭
C	involves unethical treatment of witnesses.	⬭
D	requires special training of police officers.	⬭
E	cannot be used to interview children.	⬭

(Total 2 marks)

Q6.

Identify **and** outline **two** techniques that may be used in a cognitive interview.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(Total 4 marks)

Q7.

Outline **and** evaluate research into the effects of leading questions on the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

(Total 8 marks)

Q8.

Melissa was on her way to college when she saw a man attack a cyclist and steal his bike. She was really upset about what she had seen, and when she got to college, everyone wanted to talk to her about it. Luke asked her whether the man was wearing a brown jacket.

From the description above, identify **three** factors affecting the accuracy of eyewitness testimony. How might **each** factor affect Melissa's memory of the event?

(Total 6 marks)

Q9.

A woman is being questioned by a police officer about a heated argument she witnessed on an evening out with friends. The argument took place in a bar and ended with a violent assault. A knife was discovered later by police in the car park of the bar.

'Did you see the knife the attacker was holding?', asked the police officer.

'I'm not sure there was a knife – yes, there probably was,' replied the woman. 'I was so scared at the time that it's hard to remember, and my friends and I have talked about what happened so many times since that I'm almost not sure what I did see.'

Discuss research into **two or more** factors that affect the reliability of eyewitness testimony. Refer to the information above in your answer.

(Total 16 marks)

Q10.

Explain how the cognitive interview is used to improve the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

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(Total 6 marks)

Q11.

Outline how a cognitive interview can be used to improve the accuracy of eyewitness testimony (EWT).

Extra space

(Total 4 marks)

Q12.

(a) One technique used in cognitive interviews is 'report everything'. When using this technique, the police officer in this investigation read the following instructions to the participants:

"Please tell me everything you can remember about what you saw in the film. Do not leave anything out, even the small details you think may be unimportant."

Identify **one other** technique which could have been used by the police officer in this cognitive interview. Write down the instructions that he could have read out to the participants.

Technique _____

_____

Instructions to participants _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(3)

(b) The psychologist also recorded the number of correct items recalled and the number of incorrect items recalled in each type of interview. The following results were obtained:

	Cognitive Interview	**Standard Interview**
Mean number of correct items recalled	45	32
Mean number of incorrect items recalled	8	8

From these results, what might the psychologist conclude about the effectiveness of cognitive interviews?

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2)

(Total 5 marks)

Q13.

Outline **and** evaluate research into the effects of misleading information on eyewitness testimony.

(Total 8 marks)

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Q14.

Outline **one** study that has investigated the effect of anxiety on eyewitness testimony.

Extra space

(Total 4 marks)

Q15.

Some psychologists argue that there is always more information about an event in a person's memory than can be recalled at any one time. This means that eye-witness recall can be improved by using certain techniques and methods.

Describe and evaluate **at least one** way of improving eye-witness recall. Refer to evidence in your answer.

(Total 16 marks)

Q16.

Some psychologists argue that there is always more information about an event in a person's memory than can be recalled at any one time. This means that eye-witness recall can be improved by using certain techniques and methods.

Describe and evaluate **at least one** way of improving eye-witness recall. Refer to evidence in your answer.

(Total 12 marks)

Q17.

A researcher carried out an experiment to investigate misleading information. Participants were shown a photograph in which a man and a woman were talking. The photograph was then taken away and the participants were asked questions about it. Participants were randomly allocated to condition one or condition two.

Participants in condition one were asked:

Question A “How old was the youth in the photograph?”

Participants in condition two were asked:
Question B “How old was the man in the photograph?”

(a) Why is **Question A** an example of misleading information?

(2)

(b) Name an appropriate experimental design which could be used in this experiment. Explain why a repeated measures design would be unsuitable to use in this experiment.

Experimental design

Explanation

Extra space

(4)

(c) Explain why it would be appropriate to use a pilot study as part of this experiment.

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Extra space

(4)

(d) In this experiment, participants were asked to look at a photograph rather than watch a live conversation. Explain **one** strength and **one** limitation of carrying out the experiment in this way.

Strength

Extra space

Limitation

Extra space

(4)

(e) Describe **at least one** other research study into misleading information. In your answer you should include details of what participants were asked to do and what results were found.

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Extra space

(6)
(Total 20 marks)

Q18.

Jenny was standing at a bus stop talking on her mobile phone. The weather was wet and cold. Two men in the bus queue started arguing. One of the men was stabbed and badly injured. Later that day the police questioned Jenny, using a cognitive interview. They asked her to report everything she could remember about the incident even if it seemed unimportant.

Apart from 'report everything', explain how the police could use a cognitive interview to investigate what Jenny could remember.

In your answer you must refer to details from the passage above.

Extra space

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(Total 4 marks)

Q19.

An American space shuttle exploded soon after it was launched. All of the astronauts on board were killed. Crowds of people were watching, including friends and relatives of the astronauts. Six months after the explosion, a student decided to investigate the accuracy of some of the eyewitnesses' memory of this event.

(a) Outline how the student could have used a cognitive interview to investigate this event. Include **at least one** example of what the participants would be asked to do.

Extra space

(4)

(b) Explain how anxiety might have affected eyewitness testimony of this event. Refer to psychological research in your answer.

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Extra space

(6)

(Total 10 marks)

Q20.

Explain why it might be better to carry out research into eyewitness testimony in the real world, rather than in a laboratory.

(Total 3 marks)

Q21.

A psychologist carried out a field experiment to investigate the accuracy of eyewitness testimony. The participants were pupils and parents attending a school concert. Just before the concert began, two professional actors had an argument on the stage. During the argument, one actor pushed the other actor. Both actors then left the stage. Some of the audience were approached as they left the concert and were asked to take part in an experiment. Those who agreed were taken to a quiet room and were asked some questions about the argument. For some participants, the questions included, “Did you see the man in glasses push the other man?” In fact, neither man was wearing glasses.

The participants were then asked to describe the argument in their own words.

(a) What is a field experiment?

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2)

(b) Other than ethical issues, outline **one** weakness of using a field experiment in this investigation.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2)

(c) Suggest why the psychologist included the question about the man in glasses.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2)

(Total 6 marks)

Q22.

Cognitive interviews have been developed to improve witness recall. Identify and explain **two** techniques used in the cognitive interview.

Technique 1 _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Technique 2 _____

_____

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(Total 6 marks)

Q23.

Outline and evaluate research into the effects of anxiety on the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

(Total 12 marks)

Q24.

Outline how **one** research study investigated the accuracy of eyewitness testimony (EWT).

Extra space

(Total 4 marks)

Q25.

Traditionally, police have questioned eye witnesses using the standard interview procedure. This involves a period of free recall about an event, followed by specific questions. However, an increasing number of police forces are now using the cognitive interview technique.

Explain how a cognitive interview differs from a standard interview.

Extra space

(Total 4 marks)

Q26.

Psychologists have carried out research into the use of cognitive interviews. One possible ethical issue which might arise during this research is protection of participants from harm. Explain how psychologists could deal with this ethical issue.

(Total 3 marks)

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