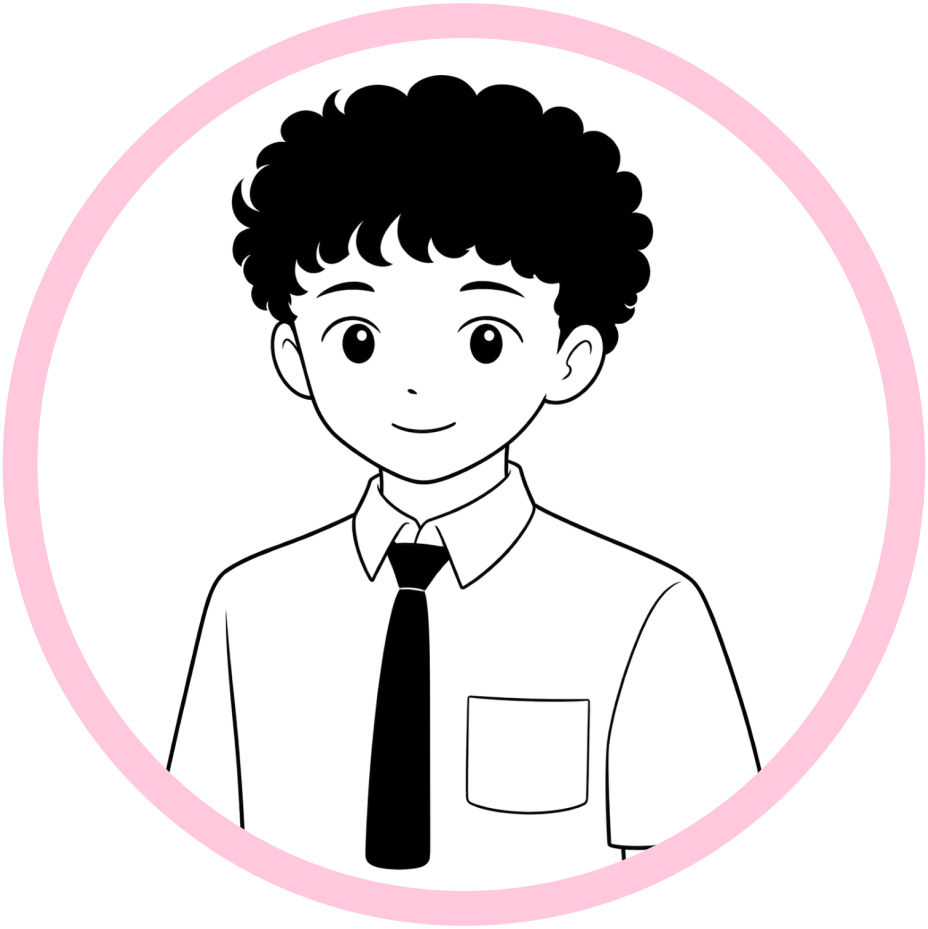
AQA A-LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY · 7182

PSYCHOLOGY



EXAM QUESTION PACK

3.2.3 SELF-REPORT TECHNIQUES

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
/110	%

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Q1.

A researcher wants to investigate the effectiveness of physiotherapy in the recovery of stroke patients with brain damage. Carers of stroke patients will be sent questionnaires to produce quantitative data.

(a) Explain **one** disadvantage of obtaining quantitative data in this study.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2)

(b) Write **one** question that could be used in the researcher's questionnaire to produce quantitative data and **one** question that could be used in the researcher's questionnaire to produce qualitative data.

Quantitative question: _____

_____

_____

Qualitative question: _____

_____

_____

(2)

(Total 4 marks)

Q2.

Outline what is involved in self-report.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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_____

_____

(Total 3 marks)

Q3.

Explain **one** limitation of a self-report technique.

(Total 2 marks)

Q4.

Explain **one** limitation of a self-report technique.

(Total 2 marks)

Q5.

Explain **one** limitation of asking parents to rate their own children.

(Total 2 marks)

Q6.

Two researchers wanted to investigate the influence of early attachment on later relationships. They asked 20 teenagers aged 14-16 to write an essay on the importance of family and friends. Ten of the teenagers had been raised by their mother and father. The other ten had spent the first five years of their lives in care (and were then adopted).

The researchers used content analysis to analyse the teenagers' essays. The researchers devised a set of categories to do this, two of which were 'references to love' and 'references to fear of rejection'.

(a) Explain **one** way in which the researchers may have checked whether their categories were reliable.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(3)

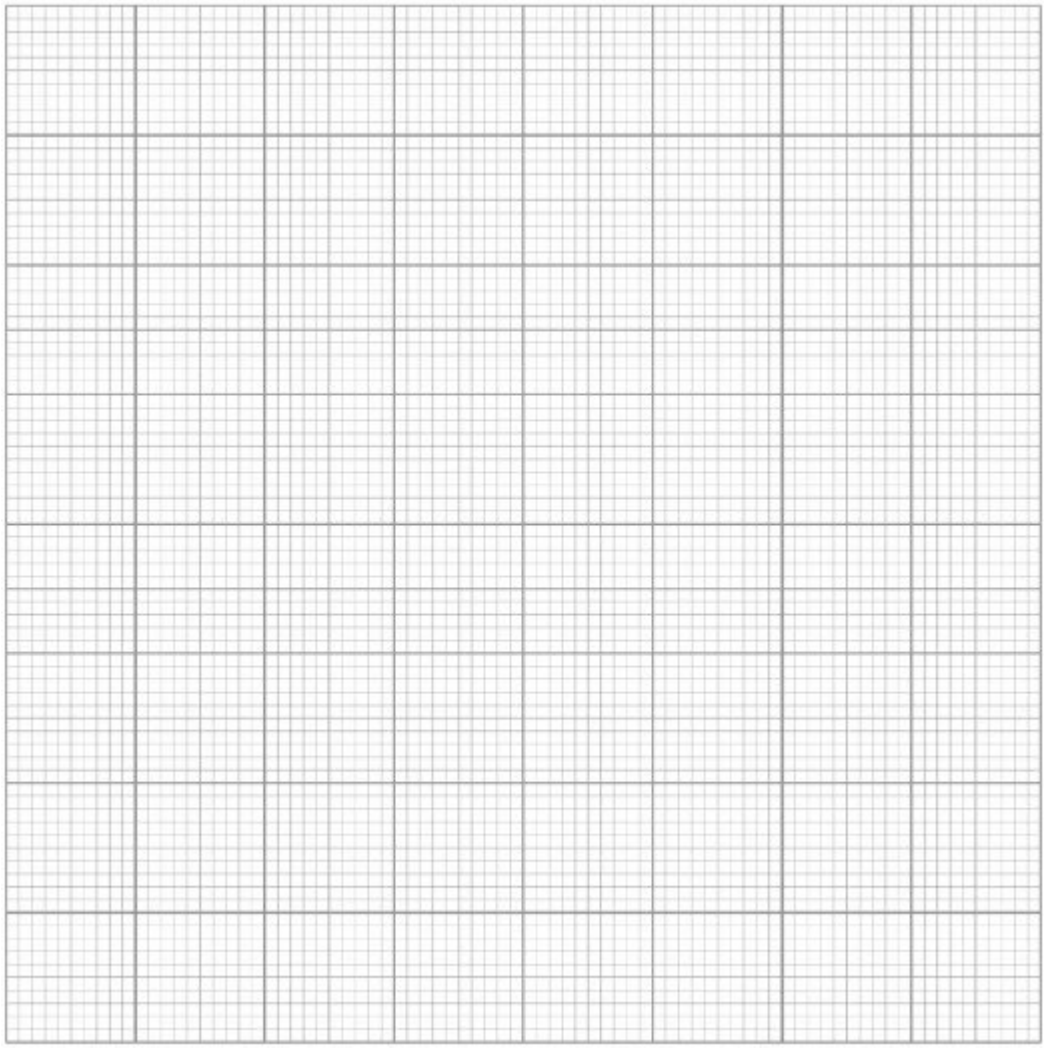
The results of the investigation for references to love and references to fear of rejection are shown in the table below:

The total number of references to love and references to fear of rejection in essays written by the care group and the non-care group

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	Total number of references to love	Total number of references to fear of rejection
Non-care group	40	5
Care group	16	15

(b) Draw a suitable graphical display to represent the data in the table.



(3)

(c) Express the total number of references to love in the essays written by the care group as a fraction of the total number of references to love in the essays overall. Show your calculations.

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(3)

(d) The researchers decided to interview some of the teenagers about their early life experiences.

Explain how the data collected from the interview might have improved upon the data collected from the content analysis.

(3)

(e) Explain Bowlby's monotropic theory. Refer to the data from the table in part (a) in your answer.

(6)

(Total 18 marks)

Q7.

Type A personality can be measured by using a questionnaire. Explain **two** strengths of using questionnaires.

Strength One _____

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_____

_____

_____

Extra space _____

_____

Strength Two _____

_____

_____

_____

Extra space _____

_____

(Total 4 marks)

Q8.

A group of researchers conducted a survey about helping behaviour. They asked an opportunity sample of 200 university students to complete a questionnaire. The questionnaire contained open and closed questions. The following are examples of questions used in the questionnaire:

A Do you think that you are generally a helpful person? Yes No

B What do you think most people would do if they were driving in the rain and saw a woman standing alone next to her broken-down car?

C How would you react if someone walking in front of you slipped and fell over?

(a) Identify an open question from **A**, **B** or **C** above. Give **one** advantage of using open questions.

Example of open question (write **A**, **B** or **C**) _____

(1)

Advantage _____

_____

_____

(1)

The researchers then categorised the responses given to question **C** above. The results are shown in **Table 1**.

Table 1: The number of participants who gave the following responses to question C

Help the person	Ignore the	Laugh at the	Other reactions

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	person	person	
137	23	31	9

(b) What conclusion might the researchers draw from the responses given in **Table 1** above? Justify your answer.

(2)

On the basis of the responses to question **C**, the researchers decided to conduct a further investigation. The aim was to see whether an individual's helping behaviour might be affected by the presence of other people.

The participants were an opportunity sample of 40 first-year students. The students were told that they would be interviewed about university life. Each student was met by an interviewer and asked to wait. The interviewer then went into the next room. After two minutes there was a loud noise and a cry of pain from the next room.

Twenty participants took part in **Condition 1** and the other 20 participants took part in **Condition 2**.

Condition 1 Each participant waited alone.

Condition 2 Each participant waited with another person who had previously been told by the researchers not to react to the sounds from the next room.

The researchers counted the number of participants in each condition who went to help the interviewer in the next room.

(c) Write a suitable experimental hypothesis for the further investigation.

(2)

(d) Suggest **one** extraneous variable that might be present in the further investigation. Explain why this variable should be controlled and how it could be controlled.

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(3)

(e) Identify the experimental design used in the further investigation. Explain why this is a suitable experimental design for this study.

(3)

(f) Explain how random sampling might have been used to select the participants in the further investigation.

(2)

The results of the further investigation are given below.

Table 2: Number of participants who went to help the interviewer in Condition 1 and Condition 2

Condition 1 (Participant waiting alone)	**Condition 2 (Participant waiting with another person)**
20	9

(g) Suggest a suitable graphical display that could be used to represent the data in **Table 2**. Justify your choice.

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(2)

(h) After the further investigation, the researchers debriefed the participants. Discuss **two** points that the researchers should have included when they debriefed the participants.

(4)

(Total 20 marks)

Q9.

A psychologist carried out a research study to investigate the effects of institutional care. To do this, she constructed a questionnaire to use with 100 adults who had spent some time in an institution when they were children.

She also carried out interviews with ten of the adults.

(a) For this study, explain **one** advantage of collecting information using a questionnaire.

(3)

(b) In this study, the psychologist collected some qualitative data. Explain what is meant by qualitative data.

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(2)

(c) Write **one** suitable question that could be used in the interviews to produce qualitative data.

(2)

(d) Identify **two** ethical issues that the psychologist would need to consider in this research.

Explain how the psychologist could deal with **one** of these issues.

Ethical Issue 1 _____

Ethical Issue 2 _____

How the psychologist could deal with one of these issues _____

(5)

(Total 12 marks)

Q10.

Psychologists sometimes use questionnaires to find out about stress. Explain **two** strengths of using questionnaires in research.

Strength one _____

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Strength two _____

(Total 4 marks)

Q11.

Questionnaires and interviews are both self-report techniques. Explain **one** advantage **and one** disadvantage of using a questionnaire rather than an interview.

Advantage _____

Disadvantage _____

(Total 4 marks)

Q12.

A psychologist was interested in testing a new treatment for people with eating disorders. She put up adverts in several London clinics to recruit participants. Thirty people came forward and they were all given a structured interview by a trained therapist. The therapist then calculated a numerical score for each participant as a measure of their current functioning, where 50 indicates excellent, healthy functioning and zero indicates failure to function adequately. The psychologist then randomly allocated half the participants to a treatment group and half to a no-treatment group. After eight weeks, each participant was re-assessed using a structured interview conducted by the same trained therapist, and given a new numerical score. The trained therapist did not know which participants had been in either group.

For each participant, the psychologist calculated an improvement score by subtracting the score at the start of the study from the score after eight weeks. The greater the number, the better the improvement.

Median and range of improvement scores for the treatment group and for the no-treatment group

	Treatment group	No–treatment group
Median	10.9	2.7
Range	2.1	0.8

(a) With reference to the data in the table above, outline what the findings of this investigation seem to show about the effectiveness of the treatment.

(2)

(b) The psychologist used a statistical test to find out whether there was a significant difference in improvement between the 'treatment' and 'no-treatment' groups. She found a significant difference at the 5% level for a one-tailed test ($p \leq 0.05$).

Identify an appropriate statistical test for analysing the participants' scores. Explain why it would be a suitable test to use in this study.

(4)

(c) What is the likelihood of the psychologist having made a Type 1 error in this study? Explain your answer.

(2)

(d) The psychologist assumed that improvements in the treatment group were a direct result of the new type of treatment. Suggest **two** other reasons why people in the treatment group might have improved.

(4)

(e) The psychologist could have used self-report questionnaires to assess the participants instead of using interviews with the therapist. Explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using self-report questionnaires in this study rather than interviews.

(4)

(f) The psychologist needed to obtain informed consent from her participants. Write a brief consent form which would be suitable for this study. You should include some details of what participants could expect to happen in the study and how they would be protected.

(5)

(g) What is meant by reliability? Explain how the reliability of the scores in this study could be checked.

(4)

(h) The psychologist noticed that female and male participants seemed to have responded rather differently to the treatment.

She decided to test the following hypothesis:

> Female patients with an eating disorder will show greater improvement in their symptoms after treatment with the new therapy than male patients.

She used a new set of participants and, this time, used self-report questionnaires

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instead of interviews with a therapist.

Imagine that you are the psychologist and are writing up the report of the study. Write an appropriate methods section which includes reasonable detail of design, participants, materials and procedure. Make sure that there is enough detail to allow another researcher to carry out this study in the future.

(10)

(Total 35 marks)

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