Cambridge International AS & A Level

Cambridge Assessment International Education
Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level

CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER | | | | | |

CANDIDATE NUMBER | | | | |

6293029093

PSYCHOLOGY **9990/22**

Paper 2 Research Methods **February/March 2019**

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your centre number, candidate number and name in the spaces at the top of this page.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.
DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **10** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

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Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 Ethical guidelines should be followed in all psychological research.

(a) Explain why 'informed consent' is important in psychological research.

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..... [2]

(b) Explain why it is sometimes necessary to break the guideline of informed consent in psychological research.

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..... [2]

2 There are different types of interview. Two types are structured interviews and semi-structured interviews.

(a) Describe what is meant by a 'semi-structured interview'.

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..... [2]

(b) Suggest why it could be better to conduct a structured interview than a semi-structured interview.

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..... [2]

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3 Laney et al. (false memory) used control groups.

(a) Identify how **one** control group in the study was different from an experimental group.

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..... [1]

(b) Explain why control groups are important in psychological research.

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..... [2]

4 From the study by Pepperberg (parrot learning):

Explain whether generalisations could be made from the results of the parrot in this study to other parrots.

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..... [2]

5 In the study by Schachter and Singer (two factors in emotion), the 'mean number of acts initiated' was calculated for the euphoria group.

(a) Explain how a mean is calculated.

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..... [1]

(b) Explain **one** advantage of using the mean as a measure of central tendency in this study.

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..... [2]

6 Describe why psychologists operationally define the independent variable and the dependent variable in experiments, using any examples.

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Section B

Answer **all** questions in this section.

7 Robin is conducting a questionnaire study about children's use of social media, which will collect qualitative and quantitative data.

(a) Suggest **one** question that Robin could use to collect qualitative data.

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..... [1]

(b) When the children answer the questions, they might tell lies.

(i) Explain why the children lying would affect the validity of the results.

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(ii) Suggest **one** way that Robin could change his study to reduce the problem of children telling lies.

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(c) Robin wants to use a wide range of different children in his sample.

(i) Suggest how he could obtain a wide range of children in his sample.

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(ii) Explain why it is important to use a wide range of children in this study.

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..... [2]

8 Hua is conducting a correlational study about birds feeding in her garden. Hua finds that when it is sunnier, the birds feed more. She also finds that fewer birds feed when it is more windy.

(a) Describe what is meant by a 'positive correlation', using an example from Hua's study.

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..... [2]

(b) Suggest how Hua could measure feeding behaviour in her study.

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9 Bella is conducting a laboratory experiment to find out about people's fear of animals. She asks each participant if they have any phobias. If the participant says yes they are asked to leave. The remaining participants are shown photographs while their pulse rate is measured. The independent variable (IV) is whether the photographs are of animals with eight legs or animals with four legs.

(a) Explain why it was necessary to ask some of the participants to leave.

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..... [2]

(b) The photographs of different animals were shown in a random order.

State why this was important.

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..... [1]

(c) The experiment used a repeated measures design.

Explain **one** advantage of this design in this study.

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..... [2]

(d) Explain **two** extraneous variables that Bella should control.

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..... [4]

(e) Explain **one** disadvantage of using pulse rate to measure fear.

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Section C

Answer **all** questions in this section.

10 Jim is planning an observational study about the way people respond to facial expressions. He intends to go to a train station and either smile or frown at people. He wants to see how people respond to him.

(a) Describe how Jim could conduct an observational study at a train station to find out how people respond to smiling and frowning.

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(b) Identify **one** 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.

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..... [4]

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