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Cambridge International AS & A Level

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level

CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER | | | | | |

CANDIDATE NUMBER | | | | |

4395186761

PSYCHOLOGY **9990/23**

Paper 2 Research Methods **May/June 2018**

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 **9** printed pages and **3** blank pages.

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Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 Explain what is meant by the 'aim' of a study, using an example.

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.....[2]

2 **(a)** Identify the sampling technique used in the study by Milgram (obedience).

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.....[1]

(b) Suggest **one** disadvantage of this sampling technique.

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.....[2]

3 In the study by Dement and Kleitman (sleep and dreams), the experimenter sometimes entered the room after the participant had completed their dream report and asked them some questions.

(a) State **one** type of interview that could have been used in this part of the study. Justify your choice.

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.....[2]

(b) Suggest **one** advantage of this type of interview.

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.....[2]

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4 In the study by Schachter and Singer (two factors in emotion), participants were told that the study was about vitamins and vision. This was not true, so the participants could not give informed consent.

(a) Explain **one** other ethical guideline broken by telling the participants that the study was about vitamins and vision.

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.....[2]

(b) Explain **one** advantage of telling the participants that the study was about vitamins and vision.

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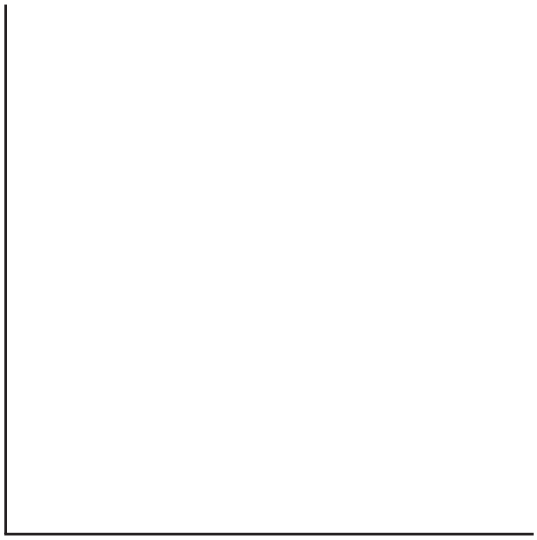
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.....[2]

5 Yamamoto et al. (chimpanzee helping) used bar charts to display their results.

Draw a bar chart to show **how** the results of this study were displayed.



[3]

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6 Describe differences between subjectivity and objectivity, using any examples.

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Section B

Answer **all** questions in this section.

7 Xanthe is investigating whether there is a relationship between how funny a person finds a joke and how much activity there is in a particular brain region. She plans to measure brain activity using a brain scan.

(a) Suggest **one** way that Xanthe could measure how funny a participant thinks each joke is.

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(b) Xanthe expects to find that the funnier a person finds a joke, the more brain activity there will be.

Explain the type of relationship she is expecting in this study.

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(c) State which measure of central tendency Xanthe should use with the data from the brain scans. Justify your choice.

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8 Albert is investigating autism. He plans to obtain a sample of people with autism and a control group. He will compare how well these participants judge the feelings of dolls which are either dancing, crying, waving or smiling.

(a) Identify the independent variable in this experiment.

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(b) Suggest how the dependent variable in this experiment could be measured.

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(c) Explain **one** advantage of using dolls rather than people in this procedure.

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(d) Explain **one** disadvantage of using dolls rather than people in this procedure.

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(e) Describe the experimental design used in this experiment.

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9 Laken is planning a case study of a child with a phobia of chairs. She is worried about how she will collect data from the child as he will not sit on a chair, so she is planning to sit on the floor with him.

(a) Explain the ethical guideline Laken is following by choosing to sit on the floor.

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(b) Suggest **one** way that Laken could collect data from the child's parents, other than by interview.

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(c) Suggest why Laken chose to use the case study method in this research.

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Section C

Answer **all** questions in this section.

10 Taavi works in an office and has been asked to conduct an observation of employees' doodling. He is aiming to observe their doodling and what else they are doing while they doodle.

(a) Describe how Taavi could conduct an observation of employees' doodling.

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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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