



GCE A LEVEL



A290U20-1

THURSDAY, 25 MAY 2023 – AFTERNOON

PSYCHOLOGY – A level component 2

Psychology: Investigating Behaviour

**2 hours 15 minutes plus your additional
time allowance**

Surname _____

First name(s) _____

Centre Number _____

Candidate Number 2 _____

For Examiner's use only		
Question	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
1.	3	
2.	7	
3.	7	
4.	4	
5.	4	
6.	4	
7.	5	
8.	12	
9.	16	
10.	14	
11.	11	
12	13	
Total	100	

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this paper you may require a calculator and a ruler.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.

You may use a pencil for graphs and diagrams only.

Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the front cover.

Answer ALL questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. Additional space is provided for some questions within the booklet (if required). If further space is required for any question, you should use the additional page(s) at the back of the booklet, taking care to number the question(s)

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are reminded of the necessity for good English and orderly presentation in your answers.

Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

(Turn over)

SECTION A – PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH

Answer ALL questions.

- 1. Identify which type of variable is being described in the following statements:**
 - (a) Variables in a study that are not being measured or manipulated by the researcher but affect the results of all participants' behaviour equally.**
[1 mark]

(Turn over)

1 (b) Variables in a study that are not being measured or manipulated by the researcher, that affect some participants' behaviour but not others. [1 mark]

(c) The variable the psychologist manipulates and controls to see how it affects behaviour. [1 mark]

**2 (a) Explain what is meant by the term
‘significance level’. [2 marks]**

**2 (b) Explain what is meant by ' $p \leq 0.01$ '.
[2 marks]**

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(Turn over)

2 (c) Explain why a psychological researcher might use a p value of $p \leq 0.01$ rather than $p \leq 0.05$.

[2 marks]

(Turn over)

2 (d) Explain the difference between the meaning of the symbol $\leq$ and $<$.

[1 mark]

3 (a) Briefly explain how a psychologist would select a random sample for research. [2 marks]

(Turn over)

10

3 (b) Evaluate the use of random sampling in psychological research. [5 marks]

(Turn over)

12

(Turn over)

4. Explain the following ways of assessing reliability in psychological research:

(a) 'Test-retest reliability'. [2 marks]

4 (b) ‘Split-half reliability’. [2 marks]

5. Explain TWO advantages of conducting psychological research in the field compared to a laboratory environment. [2 marks + 2 marks]

[illegible]

(Turn over)

6. Briefly explain the process of peer review in psychological research.
[4 marks]

(Turn over)

7. Discuss the benefits of using quantitative data compared to qualitative data in psychological research. [5 marks]

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- 8. Evaluate methodological and ethical issues that may arise in developmental psychological research, such as Kohlberg's (1968) research 'The child as a moral philosopher'. [12 marks]**

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25

Additional space for question 8 only:

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SECTION B – PERSONAL INVESTIGATIONS

You should answer ALL the questions in this section with reference to the investigations carried out in your study of psychology.

INVESTIGATION ONE: A content analysis of anti-social behaviour in the media

9 (a) State the aim of your content analysis. [2 marks]

(Turn over)

9 (b) Describe the procedures you followed when you carried out your content analysis. [6 marks]

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(Turn over)

9 (c) (i)

Explain ONE issue of validity in your content analysis. [2 marks]

(Turn over)

9 (c) (ii)

Explain how you dealt with the issue of validity identified in (c) (i).

[2 marks]

(Turn over)

9 (d) (i)

Explain ONE issue of reliability in your content analysis. [2 marks]

9 (d) (ii)

Explain how you dealt with the issue of reliability identified in (d) (i).

[2 marks]

INVESTIGATION TWO: A questionnaire on pet ownership and stress

10 (a)

Explain how you operationalised
‘stress’ in your investigation.

[2 marks]

(Turn over)

10 (b) (i)

Explain ONE ethical issue which you considered in your investigation.

[2 marks]

10 (b) (ii)

Explain how you managed the ethical issue identified in (b) (i).

[2 marks]

10 (b) (iii)

Apart from ethical issues, explain ONE strength and ONE weakness of using a questionnaire in this investigation. [2 marks + 2 marks]

10 (c)

Identify and justify the choice of inferential statistic used to analyse the data in this investigation.

[4 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

SECTION C – APPLICATION OF RESEARCH METHODS TO A NOVEL SCENARIO

Answer ALL questions.

- 11. Psychological research has shown that a memory of an event can be influenced by information received after the event.**

Two days after visiting a museum, 40 people went to a laboratory, where they were randomly allocated into one of two groups. Participants in Group A answered questions in a room with a picture of Queen Victoria wearing a white dress and participants in Group B answered questions in a room without any pictures. One question was: “What was the colour of Queen Victoria’s dress in the museum?”. The correct answer was blue.

(Turn over)

Figure 1: Responses to the question “What was the colour of Queen Victoria’s dress in the museum?”

	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WHO STATED THIS COLOUR	
RESPONSE	Group A: room with a picture of Queen Victoria wearing a white dress	Group B: room without any pictures
Blue	6	10
White	11	6
Another colour	3	4
Total	20	20

11 (a)

State ONE appropriate conclusion that can be drawn from the findings in this research (displayed in Figure 1 opposite). [2 marks]

11 (b) (i)

Identify which measure of central tendency would be appropriate to describe this data (as displayed in Figure 1 opposite page 41).

[1 mark]

(b) (ii)

Explain why this is the most appropriate measure of central tendency for this data. [2 marks]

(Turn over)

11 (b) (iii)

Analyse the data in Group B using the measure of central tendency identified in (b) (i). [2 marks]

(Turn over)

Figure 2: Critical values for Chi Square test

DEGREES OF FREEDOM (df)	0.05
1	3.84
2	5.99
3	7.81
4	9.49
5	11.07
6	12.59

11 (c)

A Chi Square test was carried out and the calculated value was 5.78. The degrees of freedom are 2. Using an appropriate critical value from the table opposite (FIGURE 2), justify whether the researcher should accept or reject the null hypothesis.

[4 marks]

(Turn over)

Figure 3: Students’ scores on the attitude scale and the number of days they walked to school.

STUDENT	SCORE ON A SCALE OF 1–20 MEASURING POSITIVE ATTITUDES TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE	NUMBER OF DAYS WALKED TO SCHOOL OUT OF THE 20 SCHOOL DAYS IN THE MONTH
1	7	9
2	7	12
3	5	2
4	8	9
5	12	14
6	9	12
7	18	20
8	12	16
9	11	12
10	16	18

- 12. A researcher was asked to report on the effectiveness of a campaign to reduce harmful emissions into the environment. A sample was selected from students aged 13 to 16 years who lived within a safe walking distance of the school and currently travelled by car.**

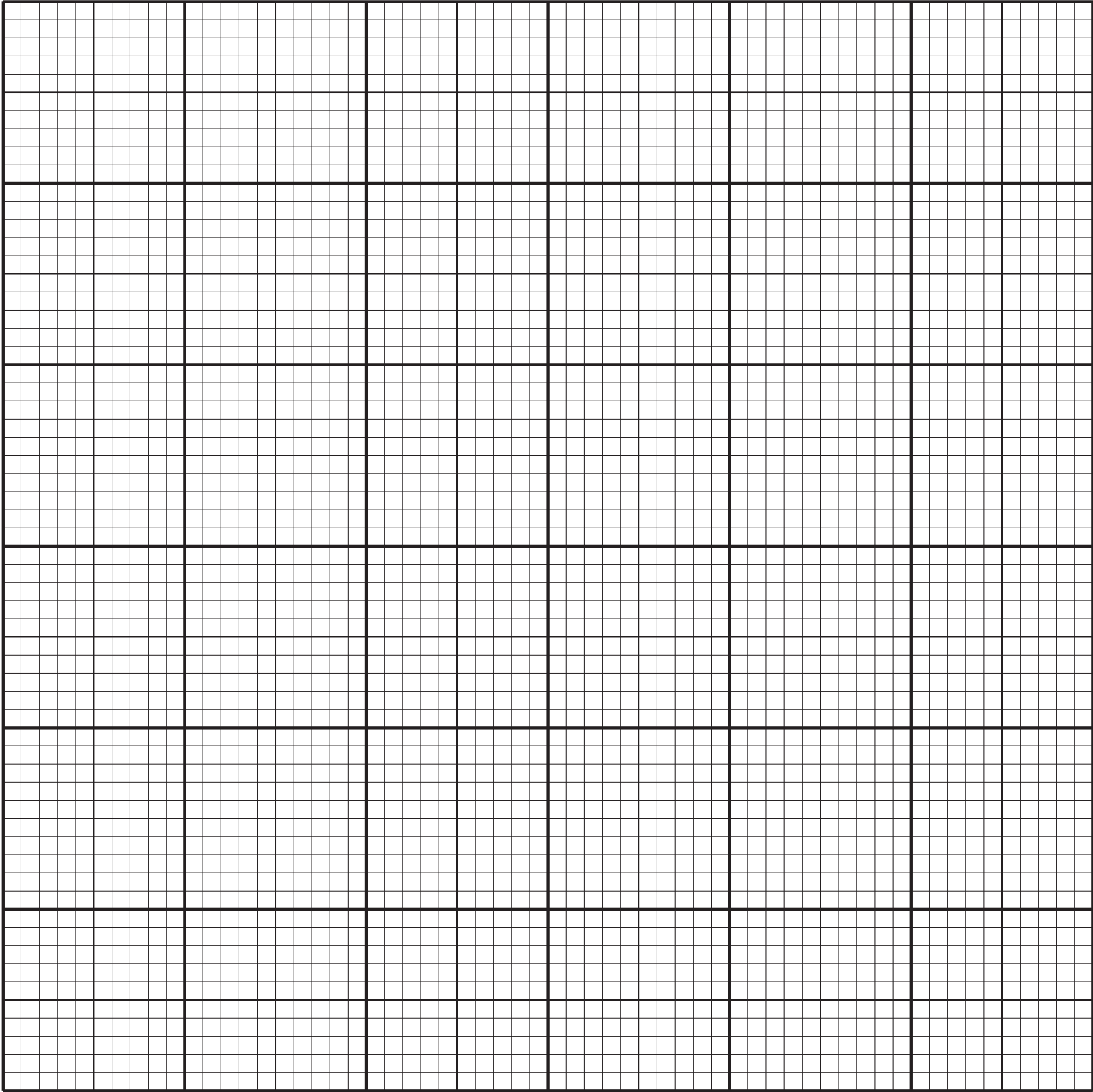
The students were asked to watch the campaign video and then given a questionnaire to measure their attitude towards environmental change. They were then asked to walk to school for a month. The score on the attitude scale and the number of days out of the month in which they walked to school are shown in the table opposite.

12 (a) (i)

Identify ONE appropriate graphical representation that could be used to display the data in this research.

[1 mark]

(Turn over)



12 (a) (ii)

Using the graphical representation that you identified in (a) (i), display the data in this research on the graph opposite. [4 marks]

(b) Identify the level of measurement of the 'scores on the attitude scale' in this research. [1 mark]

12 (c) (i)

Identify ONE appropriate measure of dispersion for the data ‘number of days walked to school’ in this research. [1 mark]

(ii) Justify why the measure of dispersion identified in (c) (i) is appropriate for ‘number of days walked to school’. [2 marks]

(Turn over)

12 (d)

**Explain ONE advantage and
ONE disadvantage of using a
self-selecting sampling technique.**

[2 marks + 2 marks]

(Turn over)

END OF PAPER

(Turn over)

Question number	Additional page, if required. Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.

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[illegible]

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[illegible]