

Section E Research methods

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Total for this question: 20 marks

5 A psychologist decided to conduct an observational study. She wanted to find out whether there was a gender difference in the number of aggressive acts displayed by boys and girls under the age of seven. This is what she did.

- She devised categories that could be used to record aggressive behaviour.
- She used an opportunity sample of 19 boys and 6 girls who were in the school playground at break-time. The target population was children under seven years old at a local primary school.
- She then observed the behaviour of the boys and girls for twenty minutes and recorded their aggressive behaviour.

5 (a) What is meant by the term *opportunity sample*?

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(2 marks)

5 (b) Give **one** advantage of using an opportunity sample.

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(1 mark)

5 (c) Identify **one** sampling method, other than opportunity sampling, that the psychologist could have used to obtain her sample.

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(1 mark)



5 (d) (i) Give **three** categories of behaviour that the psychologist could have used to observe aggression.

Category 1

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Category 2

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Category 3

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(3 marks)

5 (d) (ii) Identify **three** problems that may have occurred when observing behaviour in this study.

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(3 marks)

5 (e) (i) Identify **one** ethical issue that the psychologist should have considered before conducting this study.

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(1 mark)

5 (e) (ii) Outline how the ethical issue that you have identified in your answer to 5(e)(i) could have been dealt with by the psychologist.

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(2 marks)

Turn over ►



5 (f) The psychologist wanted to obtain more information about the children and so she decided to conduct several case studies. Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of using case studies.

Advantage

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Disadvantage

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(4 marks)

5 (g) Look at the table below which contains some examples of ways to analyse data.

Description	Term
Calculated by looking at the middle score in a set of data after the data has been put into ascending order	
Calculated by finding the most frequently occurring score	
Calculated by adding up all of the scores and dividing the total by the number of participants	

From the following list of terms, choose the one that matches each description and write **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** in the box next to the correct description.

- A** Mean
- B** Mode
- C** Median
- D** Range

(3 marks)

20

END OF QUESTIONS

