
PSYCHOLOGY

9990/12

Paper 1 Approaches, issues and debates

May/June 2018

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 60

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2018 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level and Cambridge Pre-U components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

IGCSE™ is a registered trademark.

This document consists of **11** printed pages.



Cambridge Assessment
International Education

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	From the study by Andrade (doodling): State the aim of this study. 1 mark for the aim. To investigate whether doodling aids concentration (or not); To investigate if doodling affects the recall of places/names.	1
1(b)	How was the ‘monitoring performance score’ calculated for each participant? 1 mark for correct <i>full</i> calculation The number of correct names minus (the number of) false alarms The difference between the number of correct names and the number of false alarms	1
1(c)	Outline <u>one</u> result from the monitoring performance scores. 2 marks – full answer with comparison 1 mark – partial answer or no meaningful comparison Monitoring performance was significantly higher in the doodling condition (mean 7.7) compared to the control (non-doodling) condition (mean 6.9) (2 marks); Performance was higher/better in the doodling condition (1 mark); 15/20 recalled all (8/8) names (1 mark)	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	The study by Canli et al. (brain scans and emotions) used adult participants. Identify <u>two</u> other features of this sample. 1 mark for each correct feature Ten participants; (All) female; Right-handed; Volunteers;	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)	Outline <u>one</u> methodological problem that could arise if children were used as participants in this study. 1 mark – partial answer that is methodological 2 marks – full/detailed answer that is methodological e.g. fMRI/MRI scans were used in the study to measure brain structure/activity. This requires participants to be still which might be difficult for children. (2 marks); Children may lack understanding of emotions (1 mark); Children would need to keep still during the brain scans (1 mark); Children may be scared to enter the machine so refuse to go in (1 mark); The children may find images distressing/scared of pictures (1 mark).	2

Question	Answer	Marks
3	Saavedra and Silverman studied a boy with a button phobia. Describe what happened during the behavioural exposures intervention phase of the therapy. 1 mark per correct point made. The mother provided positive reinforcement/he was rewarded for handling buttons; This was given contingent on the child successfully completing the gradual exposure; Treatment sessions lasted for 30m with the boy; Treatment sessions lasted for 20m with the boy and his mother; During one session he produced a hierarchy of disgust/fear (using a Feelings Thermometer); He was exposed to this disgust/fear hierarchy/a variety of buttons; For example, he had to hug his mother who was wearing (plastic) buttons; His level of disgust/fear was recorded; At the bottom was large denim jeans buttons/at the top was small plastic buttons.	4

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	Piliavin et al. (subway Samaritans) used four different model conditions. One of these was 'Critical area – early'. Outline what the model was expected to do in this condition. 1 mark per correct statement made. The model would stand in the critical area; They would wait until passing the fourth station before helping (the victim); This was approximately 70s after collapse	2

Question	Answer	Marks
4(b)	Describe <u>one</u> quantitative result of the behaviour of participants in the critical area. 2 marks for one quantitative result with a comparison 1 mark for one quantitative result without a meaningful comparison e.g. On 5% of trials with a white victim people left the critical area compared to 9% for a black victim (2 marks); Of the spontaneous helpers/first helpers, 90% were male/64% were white (1 mark) OR In 20% of trials people moved away (from the critical area)/in total 34 people left the area (1 mark) (together = 2 marks) Males helped more than females (1 mark) 'Early' models were more likely to elicit other helpers (n=4) more than 'late' models (n=2) (2 marks)	2

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	The study by Yamamoto et al. (chimpanzee helping) is based on the concepts of altruism and empathy. Outline what is meant by 'altruism' and 'empathy'. 2 marks for altruism 2 marks for empathy 1 mark can be awarded for an example for <i>each</i> term <i>Altruism</i> The willingness to do certain things/doing certain things for someone else (1 mark) even if it disadvantages yourself/gain no benefit (1 mark) <i>Empathy</i> The ability to understand the emotional state of someone else (1 mark) by imagining what it would be like to be in that situation (1 mark)	4

Question	Answer	Marks
5(b)	Outline how <u>one</u> result from this study supports the concept of <u>either</u> altruism <u>or</u> empathy. 1 mark for the result 1 mark for linking to the concept Altruism, e.g. The majority of chimpanzees offered a stick or straw (correct tool) to the other chimpanzee (1 mark). This allowed the other chimpanzee to reach the juice and drink it so the chimpanzee offering the tool did not get the juice (1 mark) Empathy, e.g. The majority of chimpanzees offered a stick or straw (correct tool) to the other chimpanzee (1 mark). This could have been done as the chimpanzee offering may have imagined what it was like to be in that situation of needing a tool to solve the task (1 mark)	2

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)	In the study by Schachter and Singer (two factors in emotion), the anger condition used a stooge and a questionnaire. Describe the procedure in the anger condition after the participants met the stooge. 1 mark per correct point made They were told by the experimenter that he would be back in 20 minutes; The stooge complains about the questionnaire with statements about it being unfair; Annoyed at being given shots [injections]; The stooge began to show anger; The questions begin with 'innocent' ones before getting more personal; The stooge 'paces' his answers to match that of the participant; The stooge makes standardised comments about various questions; The comments begin with 'innocent' comments but get increasingly hostile; He crumples up the questionnaire (at the end); (At the end) he stamps out of the room; The participants' behaviours were observed through a one-way mirror; Their behaviour was placed into categories/six categories were used. 1 mark can be given for an example of a stooge comment and 1 mark for any of the set questions asked in the questionnaire.	5

Question	Answer	Marks
6(b)	Explain <u>one</u> reason why the procedure was standardised in this study. It would allow the study to be more easily replicated (1 mark) Therefore, it could be tested for reliability (1 mark) For example having standardised prompts/behaviours for the stooge means exact replication is possible (1 mark) It would increase the (internal) validity of the study (1 mark) Therefore, cause and effect are (more) likely to be seen (1 mark) For example knowing it was ‘injection information’ causing behavioural changes (1 mark) It can help to reduce extraneous/uncontrolled variables (1 mark) So that we know it is probably the IV of information about the injection [any named one] (1 mark) causing the change in pulse rate/side effects/behaviours shown – the DV (1 mark)	3

Question	Answer	Marks
7(a)	Outline <u>one</u> assumption of the learning approach, including any example in your answer. 1 mark for the assumption 1 mark for the example e.g. We learn through observation/imitation of behaviour (1 mark). People may then copy behaviours seen on TV adverts (1 mark) <i>or</i> the children in the Bandura et al. study copied the attacks on the Bobo doll (alternative 1 mark) We learn through the consequences of our behaviour (1 mark). (Operant conditioning suggests) if we are rewarded for an action we are likely to repeat it (alternative first mark) so giving a sweet to a child after they have tidied their bedroom means they are more likely to repeat the tidying behaviour (1 mark) We learn through association (1 mark). (Classical conditioning suggests) we associate two stimuli together to produce a learned response (alternative first mark) so a cat can associate the sound of a cupboard opening with food (1 mark).	2

Question	Answer	Marks
7(b)	Studies from the learning approach have real-world applications. Describe how the results of the study by the Bandura et al. (aggression) can be applied to helping parents reduce aggressive behaviour in their children. 2 marks for the results 2 marks for applying it to the scenario e.g. Boys were much more likely to imitate the physical aggression of a same-sex model (1 mark). Therefore, parents could get their boys to witness same-sex models showing friendly behaviour (so they imitate that instead) (1 mark) Children were less likely to perform aggressive acts if they witnessed a non-aggressive model (1 mark). So, parents should only be kind in front of their children/should only let them watch pro-social TV (1 mark)	4
7(c)	Outline <u>one</u> other real-world application based on the results or conclusions from the study by Bandura et al. 1 mark – partial answer or no indication of who will benefit 2 marks – full answer which includes who will benefit e.g. As children were more likely to imitate physical/verbal aggression from a model (1 mark), TV programme makers might want to ensure that their characters are non-aggressive to reduce the amount of aggressive behaviour that is imitated (1 mark). The study showed children imitate same-sex models so it might be useful in schools (1 mark); Women can teach girls/men can teach boys to behave/learn more effectively (1 mark).	2

Question	Answer	Marks
8(a)	In the study by Pepperberg (parrot learning), the main way that Alex was trained was called the ‘model/rival technique’. Explain the procedure of this technique. 1 mark per correct feature of the procedure One human acts as a trainer/teacher to a second human; They present objects and ask questions about the objects/asked ‘What’s Same?’/asked ‘What’s Different?’ They are given praise/rewarded for correct answers (e.g. keep item); They show disapproval of incorrect answers (e.g. item taken away); The second human acts as a model for the parrot; They also act as a rival for the trainer’s attention; The parrot is allowed to participate in any verbal exchanges; Alex observed the interactions (between model and rival); The role of the M/R and trainer is (frequently) reversed.	4

Question	Answer	Marks
8(b)	Explain <u>one</u> similarity and <u>one</u> difference between the study by Pepperberg and <u>one</u> other core study from the learning approach. 4 marks available for the similarity, e.g. modelling, quantitative data, case study, ethics 4 marks available for the difference, e.g. species, sample size, type of conditioning, ethics The other study can only be Bandura et al. or Saavedra and Silverman. Level 4 (4 marks) - The candidate has explained one similarity/difference between the Pepperberg study and one other learning study. - Accurate knowledge and understanding is applied. - There is a clear line of reasoning which is logically structured and thoroughly evaluated. Level 3 (3 marks) - The candidate has given one similarity/difference between the Pepperberg study and one other learning study. - Knowledge and understanding is applied. - There is evidence of some structured reasoning and some evaluation. Level 2 (2 marks) - The candidate has given one similarity/difference between the Pepperberg study and one other learning study. - Some evidence that knowledge and understanding is applied but this may be limited. - There is evidence of some reasoning with limited evaluation. Level 1 (1 mark) - The candidate has given one similarity/difference between the Pepperberg study and one other learning study. OR - The candidate has given one evaluation point that is basic. Level 0 (0 marks) No response worthy of credit.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
9	Evaluate the study by Baron-Cohen et al. (eyes test) in terms of <u>two</u> strengths and <u>two</u> weaknesses. At least one of your evaluation points <u>must</u> be about the use of self-reports. Example of evaluation in context: The study may lack validity due to the nature of the ‘Eyes Test’. Getting people to judge emotion purely based on eyes only does not reflect how humans process emotions in everyday settings. People process the entire face plus other non-verbal and verbal cues to understand the emotions of another person. Other aspects that can be used for evaluation include: use of quantitative data, ethics (positive and negative), usefulness, reliability etc. These can be used as one strength and/or one weakness. Level 4 (8–10 marks) • Evaluation is comprehensive. • Answer demonstrates evidence of careful planning, organisation and selection of material. • Analysis (valid conclusions that effectively summarise issues and arguments) is evident throughout. • Answer demonstrates an excellent understanding of the material. Level 3 (6–7 marks) • Evaluation is good. • Answer demonstrates some planning and is well organised. • Analysis is often evident but may not be consistently applied. • Answer demonstrates a good understanding of the material. Level 2 (4–5 marks) • Evaluation is mostly appropriate but limited. • Answer demonstrates limited organisation or lacks clarity. • Analysis is limited. • Answer lacks consistent levels of detail and demonstrates a limited understanding of the material. Level 1 (1–3 marks) • Evaluation is basic. • Answer demonstrates little organisation. • There is little or no evidence of analysis. • Answer does not demonstrate understanding of the material. Level 0 (0 marks) No response worthy of credit.	10