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**PSYCHOLOGY ATAR – YEAR 11 2024  
Unit 1**

**Task 2: Science Inquiry (Research)**

*Science Inquiry and Lifespan Psychology*

*Part B*

**Syllabus Points:**

* Science Inquiry: Ethical guidelines and practices for psychological research, formulating research, methodology, drawing conclusions, evaluation of research and communicating
* Lifespan Psychology

**Conditions**

Time for the task:

* Part A: 2 hours in class plus homework time to conduct planning, research and note-taking
* Part B: 5 minutes of reading time. 50 minutes to complete an in-class inquiry under supervised conditions with one page of notes allowed

**Task weighting**

* 15% in total
  + Part A due Wednesday, 5 April 2023, submitted by 11:59pm via SEQTA, worth 5 marks
  + Part B to be completed in class on Thursday, 6 April 2023 worth 50 marks

**Structure of this paper**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Section | Number of questions available | Number of questions to be attempted | Suggested working time  (minutes) | Marks | Score |
| Section One:  Science Inquiry | 2 | 2 | 50 | 50 |  |
|  |  |  | **Total** | 50 |  |

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|  | **Score** |  |
| **Part A** | **/ 5** |  |
| **Part B** | **/ 50** |  |
| **Total** | **/ 55** | **%** |

**Section One: Science Inquiry 100% (50 Marks)**

This section has **two** questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Suggested working time: 50 minutes.

**Question One (37 marks)**

Throughout life, people acquire beliefs, values and behaviours that are through to be important and appropriate to function effectively as members of society. This is known as socialisation. Psychologists are interested in studying important influences on people at different stages of their lives, so that they have a greater understanding of how people adjust to changing roles throughout their lives. Mary Ainsworth was a key researcher in developmental psychology. Based on your research into the experiments of Mary Ainsworth, answer the questions that follow:

1. Define attachment. (1 mark)

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1. State the type of research method used by Ainsworth and justify your response. (2 marks)

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1. Identify the aim of Ainsworth’s research. (1 marks)

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1. Identify the sample Ainsworth used in the experiment. (2 marks)

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Ainsworth’s research was heavily influenced by a notable theorist.

1. State the theorist that Ainsworth based the ‘Strange Situation’ experiment on. (1 mark)

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1. Based on your knowledge of this theorist, explain why Ainsworth chose a particular sample for the Strange Situation experiment. (1 mark)

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1. Develop a directional hypothesis for Ainsworth’s 1978 experiment. (5 marks)

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1. Identify the independent variable, dependent variable and three controlled variables in Ainsworth’s experiment. (5 marks)

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1. Outline the method used by Ainsworth in her 1978 experiment. (8 marks)

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1. Identify the most appropriate sampling method for an experiment similar to Ainsworth’s. Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

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1. State two findings from Ainsworth’s experiment. (2 marks)

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1. Describe two ethical considerations relevant to Ainsworth’s research. (6 marks)

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**Question Two (13 marks)**

Psychology students wanted to revisit Ainsworth’s research into attachment. They observed the behaviour of three one-year-old boys who were taken to day care by their mothers.

Each boy behaved differently when the mothers left:

**Li:** ignored his mother.

**Zac:** appeared a little upset.

**Rob:** did not want his mother to leave and was extremely upset.

When the children were approached by a childcare worker, they all behaved differently. Li was calm, Zac was moderately anxious while Rob was very anxious.

1. Referring to the different attachment types identified in Ainsworth’s Strange Situation experiment, identify the mostly likely type for each child. (3 marks)

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| **Li:** |  |
| **Zac:** |  |
| **Rob:** |  |

1. Outline the behaviour each of the children is likely to display when his mother collects him from childcare. (3 marks)

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| **Li:** |  |
| **Zac:** |  |
| **Rob:** |  |

The psychology students noted that Ainsworth’s original study had good reliability.

1. Define reliability and explain what this means in the context of Ainsworth’s original study. (2 marks)

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Ainsworth’s research has played an important role in the current understanding of child development. However, when the psychology students conducted their experiment, their results had low validity.

1. Define validity. (1 mark)

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1. Identify and explain two limitations of Ainsworth’s study that impact the validity of results. (4 marks)

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