

Student name: _____

Teacher name: _____

Assessment type: Investigation part 1

Task weighting: 10%

Due: 9am Friday 8 August 2020 (Term 3, Week)

Submission: via SEQTA

Conditions:

Time for this task:

- Two hours of in-class time will be provided to work on this task
- All other work on this task must be done as homework
- There will be a validation test on research methods and analysing data from investigations as part 2 of this assessment.

Marks available: 56

Marks awarded: _____

Feedback:

Design your own investigation

Instructions to students:

- You will be designing your own **research investigation** on the topic personality traits and stress (or personality traits and any other variable of your choice)
- You will not be required to conduct the investigation or collect any data.

You need to submit a 1000 - 1500 word 'research proposal' that includes the following:

1. TITLE

- The title of your research proposal should be a description of the variables that will be manipulated and measured in the investigation (e.g. 'The relationship between [behavioural variable] and [behavioural variable]')

2. INTRODUCTION (200 – 600 words)

- **Introduce your topic.** Define any key terms and explain any relevant background information, including key concepts and theories.
- Find, read, and summarise (method, findings and link to current research) at least two recent studies on the topic and 3 in-text citations for general theory. You are required to cite publications using APA in-text referencing conventions, and include them in your reference list at the end of your proposal.
- State the **aim** of your investigation (what you are intending to investigate in the experiment) and whether you will be using an experimental or non-experimental research design.
- Formulate an **operationalised hypothesis** (identifying the research population, the IV and how it will be manipulated, and the DV and how it will be measured). Your hypothesis must be based on the information you have learnt in Unit 3 and on the past studies you have researched (i.e. it is an informed prediction).

3. METHOD (150 - 300 words)

- **Participants:** Identify the sampling method to be used and the suggested sample size, and describe any required characteristics of the participants (e.g. age and gender)
- **Materials:** List every item that will be required to conduct the experiment, including any sheets or surveys. If correlational research, this includes at least one questionnaire of at least 10 question items per relevant variable measured attached as an appendices at the end of the proposal.
- **Procedure:** Provide a step-by-step outline of how to conduct the experiment. Make sure to explain the participant selection and allocation (how participants are allocated to the control or experimental group) process and what the control and experimental groups will be doing.
- **Extraneous variables:** Identify any extraneous variables (e.g. participant differences, placebo/experimenter effects, bias, artificiality, etc.) that might affect the results, and describe how these will be controlled during the experiment.

- **Uncontrolled variables:** Identify any variables that will not be controlled, and explain/justify why they will not be controlled.

4. DATA (150-200 words)

- Describe the type of data that will be collected (subjective or objective; self-report or other report; qualitative or quantitative) and identify the advantages and limitations of the type of data that will be collected.
- Explain how the data will be collected and how the results will be collated (organised/sorted).

5. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS (150 – 200 words)

- Identify the ethical considerations that need to be taken into account throughout the experiment, and outline how they will be addressed.

6. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY (50 – 100 words)

- Discuss steps that should be taken to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings.
- Discuss the reliability and validity of the data collection method

7. CONCLUSION (150 – 200 words)

- Identify and discuss any limitations of your research design.
- Explain why the results (assume they will be statistically significant) of the experiment could be generalised to the population from which the sample will be drawn, based on the experimental conditions you have outlined in the method.
- Discuss why the results of the experiment would be relevant to the research population, and to psychological research.

8. REFERENCES

- Provide a list of all references used in your proposal (you should refer to at least five different sources).
- Your reference list must be in alphabetical order and follow APA referencing conventions.

MARKING KEY

CRITERIA:	4	3	2	1	0	Mark
TITLE			Title describes the independent and dependent variables that will be manipulated and measured by the investigation.	Title provided, however the independent and/or dependent variables are not identified.	No title provided	/2
INTRODUCTION <i>Discussion of relevant theories, models and concepts to provide the context of the investigation</i>	Discusses, in detail, psychological theories, models and concepts relevant to the investigation, supported by multiple cited references.	Discusses psychological theories, models and concepts relevant to the investigation, supported by cited references.	Describes psychological theories, models and concepts relevant to the investigation, without cited references or with irrelevant cited references.	Presents statements of ideas with limited reference to psychological theories, or lists psychological theories, models and concepts with limited detail.	Does not meet the minimum requirements.	/14
<i>Discussion of relevant research</i>	Provides a detailed discussion of relevant research, citing two or more studies where the method and the findings are included; clearly links the research to the investigation.	Provides a discussion of relevant research, citing one to two studies where the method or the findings are included.	Refers to relevant research.	Makes general comments in relation to the chosen topic.	Does not meet the minimum requirements.	
<i>Research aim/question</i>		Includes an aim which justifies the reasoning for the investigation and design.	Includes an aim for the investigation.	Attempts to write an aim for the investigation.	Does not provide a research aim/question.	
<i>Operational hypothesis</i>		Identifies variables and formulates an operational hypothesis.	Formulates a directional hypothesis with clearly identified variables.	Identifies one or more relevant variables without making links between them.	Does not provide a hypothesis or prediction.	
METHOD <i>Participants and selection process</i>		Provides detailed information about the participants and the selection process that can be replicated.	Provides general information about the participants and the selection process that cannot be replicated.	Provides limited information about the participants.	Does not provide information about the participants or the selection process.	/13
<i>Materials</i>		Provides detailed information about the materials required that can be replicated. Items on the questionnaire are reliable and valid to the constructs being measured	Provides general information about the materials required that cannot be replicated. Items on the questionnaire are mostly reliable and valid to the constructs being measured.	Provides limited information about the materials required. Items on the questionnaire have some issues with reliability and validity.	Does not provide information about the materials required to conduct the investigation.	
<i>Procedure</i>		Describes the procedure systematically, accurately, and in sufficient detail to be replicated.	Provides general information about the procedure that cannot be replicated.	Provides limited information about the procedure.	Does not provide information about the procedure.	
<i>Extraneous variables</i>	Explains how extraneous variables might affect the results, and accurately explains how they can be controlled in	Identifies extraneous variables and describes how to control them in sufficient detail to be replicated.	Identifies extraneous variables and suggests how to control them.	Identifies extraneous variables to be controlled but does not suggest how to control them.	Does not identify or explain how to control extraneous variables.	

MARKING KEY

	sufficient detail to be replicated.					
DATA <i>Description of data</i>		Describes the data to be collected and explains an advantage and a disadvantage of the type of data.	Describes the data to be collected and explains an advantage or a disadvantage of the type of data.	Describes the data to be collected.	Does not discuss the type of data to be collected.	/6
<i>Data collection and collation</i>		Describes how the data will be collected and collated in sufficient detail to be replicated.	Provides general information about the data collection or collation that cannot be replicated.	Provides limited information about the data collection and collation.	Does not provide information about the data collection and collation.	
ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS		Discusses ethical issues to consider, and describes how these will be addressed in the investigation.	Identifies ethical issues to consider and suggests how these will be addressed in the investigation.	Identifies some ethical issues to consider in the investigation.	Makes no reference to ethical considerations to be considered in the investigation.	/3
RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY	Explains steps that should be taken to ensure the reliability and validity of the results.	Explains steps that should be taken to ensure the reliability or validity of the results.	Suggests ways to ensure the reliability and validity of the results.	Suggests ways to ensure the reliability or validity of the results.	Makes no suggestions to ensure the reliability or the validity of the results.	/4
CONCLUSION <i>Limitations</i>			Discusses the limitations of the research design.	Identifies limitations of the research design.	Does not identify limitations of the research design.	/9
<i>Generalisation of results</i>		Explains and justifies why the results of the investigation could be generalised to the research population, making reference to elements of the research design.	Refers to an element of the research design to explain why the results could be generalised to the research population.	Suggests that the results could be generalised to the research population without explanation/justification	Does not comment on whether the results could be generalised to the research population.	
<i>Significance/relevance</i>	Correctly discusses relevance the investigation to the population from which the sample was drawn, to psychological theory and to past research.	Correctly discusses relevance the investigation to two of the following: the population, to psychological theory and to past research.	Correctly discusses relevance of the investigation to psychological theory and/or population.	Incorrectly discusses relevance of the investigation to psychological theory and/or population.	Does not discuss the relevance of the investigation.	
REFERENCES <i>In-text referencing</i>			Adheres to APA referencing conventions for in-text referencing. (1 mark)	Provides in-text references, does not adhere to APA referencing conventions for in-text referencing. (0.5 marks)	Does not provide in-text referencing.	/3
<i>Range of references</i>			Includes a range (at least five) relevant references. (1 mark)	Includes some (less than five) relevant references. (0.5 mark)	No reference list provided	
<i>APA referencing conventions</i>			References listed in alphabetical order and follow APA referencing conventions. (1 mark)	References listed in alphabetical order. (0.5 mark)	Does not list references in alphabetical order or adhere to APA referencing conventions	

MARKING KEY

COMMUNICATION	Uses a broad range of appropriate psychological terminology consistently. (2 marks)	Uses a range of appropriate psychological terminology consistently. (1.5 marks)	Uses simple psychological terminology consistently. (1 mark)	Uses limited psychological terminology. (0.5 marks)	Does not meet the minimum requirements.	/2
TOTAL						/56