GCE Research Methods

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| Year 12 Psychology  |



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|   | SUMMER WORK - experiment |

Carrying out the Memory experiment

**Task**

You are to carry out a memory experiment – you can look at concrete vs abstract words (e.g. table vs love) or organised list vs unorganised list, memorising words listening to music vs memorising words in silence and then complete the following:

The **aim** of the experiment was to see if: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

**Hypothesis:**

Independent variable (**IV**): ……………………………………………………………………………………………………

Dependent variable (**DV**): ………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Sample**

The **participants** were (how many people?) …………………………… male and female aged between ........... and .........

**Procedure:**

*(This is a step-by-step account of exactly what was done in the experiment. It should have enough detail to allow another researcher to replicate the experiment using your procedure.)*

Before the experiment:

The experiment:

**Results**

**Raw data table:**

Fill in the raw data from the experiment in the table below. Give each column the correct headings.

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**Data Analysis:**

Now work out the different measures of central tendency and dispersion and put the answers onto the table below.

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| --- |
| **Condition 1 (……………………………………………………………)** |
| **Mean** | **Median** | **Mode** | **Range** |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Condition 2 (……………………………………………………………)** |
| **Mean** | **Median** | **Mode** | **Range** |
|  |  |  |  |

**Data Analysis Continued:**

Use the box below to sketch a bar chart displaying the mean scores for each condition. You must give your graph an appropriate title and correctly label the x and y axis.

**Conclusions**

Write a statement about what your results show. Do they add support to your hypothesis?

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**Evaluation**

It is important to consider the **strengths** and **weaknesses** of every experiment.

**Strengths:**

**Weaknesses:**

**Ethical Considerations**

For each of the ethical issues we have looked at write down whether they were an issue in this experiment and if so, how they were dealt with.

**Deception** ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Right to Withdraw** …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

**Psychological and/or physical harm** ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Informed consent** …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

**Privacy** ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………