**Evaluation of the Authoritarian Personality**

*Ali has attempted to answer the question ‘Evaluate research into the Authoritarian Personality (6 marks)’, but he has made some mistakes. Your task is to identify each mistake by ringing it, and then write the correction in the space above it*

Zillmer et al (1995)reported that 16 Nazi war criminals scored highly on all eight of the F Scale dimensions. This

very strongly supports the view that the authoritarian personality is linked to high levels of obedience.

Elms & Milgram (1966)found that the less obedient participants in Milgram’s study scored significantly higher on

the F scale than the more obedient participants. This supports the view that the authoritarian personality is linked

to high levels of fascism.

The research only partially supports the idea that the authoritarian personality is linked to high levels of fascism,

as it would seem from Zillmer’s research that only some constructs are relevant when predicting who are likely to

be most fascist.

As this research has high internal validity, we cannot establish a cause and effect link between authoritarianism and obedience.

There may be another factor that coincides with both that is the cause of the greater obedience

The theory is politically biased. It presumes that only left wing individuals have a higher predisposition towards

obedient behaviour. This may be an indication of demand characteristics, where the views of the researcher have

influenced the outcome of the research