**Level 5 exam question practice**

Read the item below and then answer the questions that follow.

A psychologist wanted to test the accuracy of eyewitness testimony when using different identification techniques. There had been no previous research. He wanted to compare the use of simultaneous line-ups with the use of sequential line-ups. Simultaneous line-ups involve a witness identifying a suspect when viewing everyone in a line-up at the same time. Sequential line-ups involve looking at one person at a time and deciding whether they are the offender or not. If not, the next person is viewed.

The psychologist had 40 students volunteering to take part in his experiment. He divided them into two equal groups- one group viewed a simultaneous line-up, the other group viewed a sequential line-up. All participants were shown the same staged mugging on film. A week later participants returned to the laboratory to view the line-up.

1. The experimental method used was a laboratory experiment. Give one advantage and one disadvantage of this method (2+2 Marks)

***Must name and explain for 2 marks***

*Suggested answers- One advantage of a lab is that it is carefully controlled and so that means that there will be less extraneous variables impacting on your DV than any other experiment.*

*One disadvantage is that because it is so carefully controlled it may appear artificial and so increases the likelihood to demand characteristics impacting on the DV.*

1. Identify the experimental design used in this research (1 mark)

*Independent groups design*

1. Give one advantage and one disadvantage the experimental design they used in this piece of research (2+2 marks)

*As it says “in this research” you must link your answer to the scenario to gain full marks. See example.*

*One advantage of using independent groups design in this research is that participants will only take part in one condition and so will only do one type of line up. This means that the likelihood of demand characteristics is reduced as if they took part in both line ups the aim of the study would become obvious.*

*One disadvantage of using independent groups design is participants variables. It could be that by chance you have participants with naturally better memories in one of the conditions. This means that they may recall the offender more than the other group and it may not have anything to do with the type of line-up they took part in.*

1. Identify the fully operationalised IV (2 marks)

*Whether participants took part in the sequential or simultaneous line-up*

1. Write a fully operationalised hypothesis (3 marks)

***This must be non-directional as it states there was no past research so a directional hypothesis would gain no marks.***

*There will be a difference in the accuracy of identifying the “mugger” if participants use the sequential or simultaneous line-up*

1. Identify the type of sampling was used in this research (1 mark)

*Volunteer*

1. Give one advantage of using this type of sampling.(2 marks)

***You must name and explain for two, any correct disadvantage is creditable***

*One advantage of using volunteer sampling is that compared to random for instance it is much easier to gather you sample as you only need to post your advert and it is self-selecting and there are not the issues with the sample that you select not wanting to take part as in random.*

1. Before the researcher started he was worried because he wouldn’t be able to gaining fully informed consent. Give two possible ways that he could’ve dealt with this issue. (2 +2 marks)

*Choose from two of the following-*

*Retrospective consent- In the debriefing session he could tell the participants about the full aims of the research and gain their consent now after the research has been carried out.*

*Presumptive consent- He could before the research starts find a group of people similar to the participants and ask if they would consent to the research knowing everything involved, he they say yes then he can assume that the sample would also say yes.*

*Prior-general consent- he could bring the participants in a few weeks before the experiment and show them a list of research and get there consent for all of these with the real research being amongst them. They then bring them back to do the research a few weeks later and hope they have forgotten the aims of the research.*

1. Name and explain two types of validity (2 +2 marks)

*You must name and explain for full marks from any of the following- internal, external, ecological, temporal, population*

1. What is meant by reliability(1 marks)

*This is if the findings from a piece of research are consistent.*

1. How could the researcher have checked the reliability *of this experiment*? (2 marks)

***It says “this experiment” so you must link to the scenario for full marks.***

*The researcher could repeat the research using the same conditions, so different types of line ups but with different participants. If there are similar findings for the identification of the mugger then the research can be said to be reliabile.*