

Q2(b) – candidate response 1

3/3 marks awarded.

1 mark (red) for an appropriate table structure.

1 mark (green) for appropriate column headings.

1 mark (yellow) for appropriate row headings. All three of these are correct – if one has been incorrect this mark would not be awarded.

Q2(b) – candidate response 2

2/3 marks awarded.

1 mark (red) for appropriate table structure

1 mark (yellow) for three correct row headings

No marks awarded for the column headings as they are not quantifiable.

Q5 – candidate response 1

6/12 marks awarded

AO1: Some brief, but accurate features of field experiment referenced such as natural environment, independent variables; Level 2

AO2: Response at times generic, but there are some references to the scenario so again level 2

AO3: Strongest part of the response with a number of evaluation points made, linked to the context and the methodology. Level 3.

Holistically due to the weaker AO1/2 this remains at level 2 but at the top end and 6 marks.

Q5 – candidate response 2

11/12 marks awarded.

AO1: accurate knowledge of field experiments such as natural environment, use of Independent variables and dependent variables, possible extraneous variables although can be controlled more in field. Would like a little more depth in terms of explanations but still bottom level 4

AO2: application: this is fairly sustained, although some evaluative points were generic at times. Once again bottom level 4.

AO3: strongest part of the essay. A number of relevant evaluative points which are applied to context, The candidate has tried to balance their evaluation in terms of strengths and weaknesses with judgements made about their effect on such issues as validity reliability. This is Strong level 4.

This response, therefore, does not get full marks due to the slightly weaker AO1/2 but this is still a really good level 4 response.

Q12 (Criminal) – candidate response 1

4/9 marks awarded.

AO1: there is some accurate knowledge of Bandura's study but it is fairly superficial so bottom level 2

AO2: Application is limited with just one reference to Delun fighting bad guys so level 1

AO3: there is an attempt of an assessment with reference to reliability meaning comparisons are able to be made/ there could be other reasons for Delun's behaviour. So bottom level 2

Holistically, therefore, this can just get into level 2 but at the bottom end so four marks.

Q12 – candidate response 2

8/9 marks awarded.

AO1: knowledge and understanding of Bandura's study is thorough with a number of accurate elements. (note that boys showed more physical aggression so AO1 credit for this element is weaker) so bottom level 3.

AO2: Application is excellent with sustained references to Delun throughout. Solid level 3

AO3: assessment is excellent with a number of competing arguments linked to context and judgements made. Solid level 3.

The slightly weaker, but still excellent, AO1 means this response does not get full marks but is well worth the 8 marks it achieved.

Q19 (The Self) – candidate response 1

4/9 marks awarded.

AO1: there is some knowledge and understanding of the research study although this is brief and superficial so level 2.

AO2: there are elements of application throughout the response so again level 2.

AO3 assessment is not really present only one really brief reference to possible other factors (laziness!!) so level 1.

The stronger AO1/2 just puts this into level 2 but at the bottom end and 4 marks.

Q19 – candidate response 2

6/9 marks awarded.

AO1: knowledge of the study is good with some accurate information given such as the two groups/the passage/ ages of the participants and the results so this will be top level 2.

AO2: There are some references/ application to the scenario but there are areas of the essay which are generic so again top level 2.

AO3: there is a good attempt at assessment with points about the age differences, the passage differences etc. but there are some generic elements so top level 2.

Although this got 6 it would not take a great deal to get into level 3. The most obvious areas is more sustained reference to the scenario itself and explaining more in depth the Vohs and Schooler study

rather than several brief statements. This is very close though to a level 3 response, as all elements are on the borderline to the next level.

Q26 (Perception) – Candidate response 1

4/9 marks awarded.

The AO1/AO2 are intertwined in this response. Both are top level 2. There is some accurate knowledge about Gibson i.e., optic flow, texture gradient and relative size which all applied to context.

There is no AO3 assessment however. As the AO1/2 are top level 2 we can just keep this in level 2 but at the bottom end and 4 marks.

Q26 – candidate response 2

7/9 marks awarded.

AO1 knowledge is excellent, with optic flow, texture gradient, relative size all explained so level 3.

AO2 application is weaker. Although there are a few references to the scenario i.e. train, moving fact these were not sustained and not very detailed so top level 2.

AO3: assessment is good, with a number of elements such as reductionism, an alternative view i.e. Gregory and how that could apply, as well as evidence so borderline level 2/3.

Holistically this is level 3 but the weaker AO2 and borderline level 3 AO3 keeps it at the bottom and 7 marks.

Q32 (Sleep and Dreaming) – Candidate response 1

1/4 marks awarded.

The strength gets 0 marks as it is purely describing the role of melatonin in sleep rather than applying it to the scenario.

The weakness gets 1 AO2 mark for the idea that a situational factor such as school could be the reason for her stress. However it does not get the AO3 justification mark as one is not present. Something about the fact that using hormones only is therefore simplistic/reductionist as it may not tell the true reason for Tilly's stress.

Q32 – Candidate response 2

4/4 marks awarded.

For the strength

- AO2 marks for the idea that Tilly may struggle sleeping (link) as her pineal gland may not release enough melatonin (link to hormones)
- AO3 justification mark for the research evidence linked to the strength given

For the weakness

- AO2 mark for the weakness that factors such as light/medication/food (not hormones) may be causing her to sleep until 11am (the link)

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- AO3 justification that this means that using hormones to explain sleep problems is therefore reductionist as it fails to consider other factors which may affect Tilly's sleep.

Q33 – candidate response 1

5/9 marks awarded.

AO1 knowledge is accurate although brief discussing light, temperature, the SCN and zeitgebers. Solid level 2.

AO2 application is not sustained but there are some references to the scenario such as light, curtains, etc. so again level 2.

AO3 there is some assessment such as usefulness of factors/Siffre so again level 2.

Holistically this is a solid level 2 response with nothing to take the mark up or down so 5 marks.

Q33 – Candidate response 2

7/9 marks awarded.

AO1 knowledge is accurate although at times it lacks detail. Still there is enough in this response such as light, melatonin, diet etc. so bottom level 3.

AO2 application is fairly sustained, although some of the AO3 assessment is generic. Bottom level 3.

AO3 assessment is balanced with research used as support for external influences, and an alternative given i.e., internal influences i.e., brain structure, so level 3.

As all three elements are level 3, but both AO1/2 at the bottom end the mark is at the bottom of the level and 7 marks.

Q40 (Language) – Candidate response 1

4/9 marks awarded.

AO1 knowledge is limited with just one definition of linguistic determinism at the start of the response, so level 1.

AO2 application is level 2 with some reference to Naadir i.e. television, laptop but it is still brief so bottom level 2.

AO3 assessment is level 2, with reference to research and an alternative explanation but again it is superficial at times so level 2.

Holistically this is just level 2, but at the bottom end so 4 marks.

Q40 – Candidate response 2

6/9 marks awarded.

AO1 knowledge is fairly limited with only a couple of references to linguistic determinism which are very similar so bottom level 2.

AO2 is stronger with a number of references to the scenario, however the assessment is rather generic so top level 2.

Edexcel GCSE Psychology Summer 2023 Paper 2 feedback: marks awarded for exemplar responses.

AO3 is the strongest part of the response with a variety of pieces of evidence used, both for and against the explanation and some judgements made. This is a level 3 assessment.

Therefore, due to the strong AO3 this can go to the top of level 2 and 6 marks.

To achieve level 3 there needs to be more understanding shown of linguistic determinism as a concept, and more sustained reference to the scenario.