

Psychology Transition Task.

Research methods are the pinnacle of Psychological research. Please complete the table below. You are to take each research method in turn and identify the definition of each type of research method, following the grid along to aid your learning.

	Outline the different types	One strength and one limitation of each	Confidence rating on topic
SCIENTIFIC METHODS			
Experimental method. Types of experiment, laboratory and field experiments; natural and quasi-experiments.			
Observational techniques. Types of observation: naturalistic and controlled observation; covert and overt observation; participant and non-participant observation.			
Self-report techniques. Questionnaires; interviews, structured and unstructured.			
Correlations. Analysis of the relationship between covariables. The difference between correlations and experiments.			

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SCIENTIFIC PROCESSES			
Aims: stating aims, the difference between aims and hypotheses.			
Hypotheses: directional and non-directional.			
Sampling: the difference between population and sample; sampling techniques including: random, systematic, stratified, opportunity and volunteer; implications of sampling techniques, including bias and generalisation.			
Pilot studies and the aims of piloting.			
Experimental designs: repeated measures, independent groups, matched pairs.			

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Observational design: behavioural categories; event sampling; time sampling.			
Questionnaire construction, including use of open and closed questions; design of interviews.			
Variables: manipulation and control of variables, including independent, dependent, extraneous, confounding; operationalisation of variables.			
Control: random allocation and counterbalancing, randomisation and standardisation.			
Demand characteristics and investigator effects.			

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Ethics, including the role of			
the British Psychological Society's code of ethics;			
ethical issues in the design			
and conduct of psychological			
studies; dealing with ethical			
issues in research.			
The role of peer review in the			
scientific process.			
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The implications of			
psychological research for the economy.			
cconomy.			
DATA HANDLING AND ANAL	YSIS		
Quantitative and qualitative			
data; the distinction between			
qualitative and quantitative			
data collection techniques.			

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Primary and secondary data, including meta-analysis.			
Descriptive statistics: measures of central tendency – mean, median, mode; calculation of mean, median and mode; measures of dispersion; range and standard deviation; calculation of range; calculation of percentages; positive, negative and zero correlations.			
Presentation and display of quantitative data: graphs, tables, scattergrams, bar charts.			
Distributions: normal and skewed distributions; characteristics of normal and skewed distributions.			
Introduction to statistical testing; the sign test.			