

## **IB PSYCHOLOGY** (Internal Assessment)

Your Final Exam for the spring semester will be your IB Internal Assessment. IB Diploma/Certificate candidates are required to write the IA individually and not with other students (they are only permitted to share data and statistical analysis). All other students may write the IA individually **or** as a group.

**TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED REPORT** due no later than **March 24, 2011** and must include the following (in order) using the headings below; be sure to number each page.

A cover sheet with title, student name and IB candidate number (if applicable), subject and level of course (HL), date and number of words (1500-2000 words).

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Abstract, Introduction, Method (Design, Participants, Materials, Procedure), Descriptive Results, Inferential Results, Discussion, References, Appendices

### **ABSTRACT**

Clearly write a summary (less than 200 words) of the experimental study including the aim, the hypotheses, the method, the participants, the results and the conclusion.

### **INTRODUCTION (Criterion A)**

The aim of the study- a paragraph about what is being investigated and what is expected.

A summary/explanation of the key theories from 3 research studies. **The studies should be made relevant to your research hypothesis.**

The operationalized experimental/research hypothesis (a clear and concise prediction of what is expected to be demonstrated in the experiment and how the variables will be quantified) and its type (one-tailed or two-tailed).

The operationalized null hypothesis (no significant difference is expected to be found on the measure of the dependent variable and that any difference found is due to chance).

## **METHOD: DESIGN (Criterion B)**

The type of the experimental design (independent samples, repeated measures etc) and a **justification** for the design. Identify and explain all controls used.

A clear identification of the independent and dependent variables.

Ethical considerations (including **informed** consent).

## **METHOD: PARTICIPANTS (Criterion C)**

The specific characteristics your target population (age, gender etc)

The number of participants you used (15 – 40) and how you obtained your sample- if it was not done randomly, justify why not.

Your allocation procedures

## **METHOD: MATERIALS**

A list all materials specifically developed for use in the experiment (standardized instructions, informed consent, memory tests, word lists debriefing notes etc) and reference sample copies to appendices.

## **METHOD: PROCEDURES (Criterion D)**

A careful and accurate description of how you carried-out your experiment. (Use a chronological order beginning with how materials were developed so that another researcher could replicate the experiment).

## **RESULTS: DESCRIPTIVE (Criterion E)**

Clearly and accurately state the results which reflect the hypotheses of the research.

Use one measure of central tendency (mean or median if there are outliers) and one measure of dispersion (range or standard deviation)

Present results in tabular form (in appendices).

Accurately and clearly graph the results directly relevant to the hypotheses of the study (in appendices)

## **RESULTS: INFERENCE (Criterion F)**

Explicitly justify the inference test chosen.

Accurately state the results of the inferential test; show calculations (in appendices).

*Accept* or reject the null hypothesis based on an appropriate statistical significance.

## **DISCUSSION (Criterion G)**

Discuss the results of the study based on the descriptive and inferential statistics.

Discuss the findings of the experimental study and compare these to the relevant background studies and/or theories (presented in the Introduction); make an appropriate conclusion.

Rigorously analyze the strengths and limitations of the design and procedure; suggest modifications

Mention ideas for future research

## **REFERENCES (Criterion H)**

Alphabetize all in-text citations and references using the APA citation method.

## **APPENDICES**

Label each appendix appropriately with all materials necessary to allow for the experiment to be replicated.

## **MARK SCHEMES USED TO GRADE IA:**

Criterion A	Introduction	5 marks
Criterion B	Method: Design	2 marks
Criterion C	Method: Participants	2 marks
Criterion D	Method: Procedure	2 marks
Criterion E	Results: Descriptive	2 marks
Criterion F	Results: Inferential	3 marks
Criterion G	Discussion	8 marks
Criterion H	Citation of Sources	2 marks
Criterion I	Report Format	2 marks
	<b>Total</b>	<b>28 marks</b>