CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™ Psychology 0266

Lesson 2: Research methods 7.1 Experimental method	
Learning objective	To gain knowledge and understanding of experimental methods
Lesson objectives	By the end of the lesson, learners will be able to: • Define experimental design • Explain repeated measures and independent measures • Explain counterbalancing and random allocation • Apply knowledge of the experimental design to novel scenarios
Vocabulary	**Experimental design:** a way of assigning participants to different conditions or levels in an experiment **Independent measures:** different participants take part in each condition of an experiment; participants experience only one of the levels of the independent variable **Repeated measures:** the same participants take part in each condition of an experiment; participants experience all of the levels of the independent variable **Random allocation:** The assignment of participants to different conditions in an experiment, so that each participant has an equal chance of being assigned to any particular condition **Counterbalancing:** changing the order in which participants experience different conditions, to reduce the impact of extraneous variables in an experiment
Previous learning	Learners have been introduced to the concept of experiments, as well as independent and dependent variables.

Plan		
Activities		**Resources**
Beginning (5 mins)	Learners complete the starter activity on participant variables.	Experimental designs infographic (slides 2 and 3):
Middle (50 mins)	• Discuss the results of the starter activity, exploring the effect of participant variables on experiments.	

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	• Define experimental design for learners' notes / glossaries. Share the infographic slide to illustrate the two types of experimental design. • Provide definitions of independent measures and random allocation. Discuss the importance of random allocation in this experimental design. • Learners can work in pairs to answer the questions on random allocation. • Provide definitions of repeated measures and random allocation. Discuss the importance of counterbalancing in this experimental design.	https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1OW69y5h4xxvjHb7HM4RWeJRrQLV0NBBSaNcm3jrxfvc/edit?usp=sharing
End (5 mins)	Learners complete the plenary task to apply their knowledge of counterbalancing to a novel scenario.	

Reflection and evaluation
Reflection:

Summary evaluation:

What two things went really well? (Consider both teaching and learning.)

1.

2.

What two things would have improved the lesson? (Consider both teaching and learning.)

1.

2.

What have I learned from this lesson about the class or individuals that will inform my next lesson?