1.3 Situational Variables in Obedience: Proximity, Location and Uniform: Test Pack

AQA 7182 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Which variation produced the largest absolute drop in obedience compared with Milgram's baseline of 65%: the touch-proximity condition (about 30%), the remote-instruction condition (about 20%), the run-down office location (about 47.5%), or the plain-clothes experimenter (about 20%)? Give the variation(s) and show how you determined the largest drop in percentage points.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 State Milgram's original baseline obedience percentage in the Yale laboratory condition that the variation conditions are compared with. Give the percentage and explain its role briefly.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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3 Outline the remote-instruction version of Milgram's proximity variation and state the obedience percentage when the experimenter gave instructions over the telephone and was not physically present. Name the variation, describe the manipulation, and give the obedience rate.

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

4 Identify one limitation of Milgram's situational-variables research with respect to sample generalisability. Explain briefly why this limits the conclusions that can be drawn about obedience in the wider population.

(Total for Question 4 is 3 marks)

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Mark scheme · 1.3 Situational Variables in Obedience: Proximity, Location and Uniform: Test Pack

Question 1

calculates the absolute drops: touch-proximity 65-30 = 35; remote 65-20 = 45; location 65-47.5 = 17.5; plain clothes 65-20 = 45 oe	**M1**
identifies remote-instruction and plain-clothes variations as tied for the largest absolute drop of 45 percentage points cao	**A1**

Answer: Calculate drops: touch-proximity 65 - 30 = 35 percentage points; remote-instruction 65 - 20 = 45 percentage points; run-down office 65 - 47.5 = 17.5 percentage points; plain clothes 65 - 20 = 45 percentage points. The remote-instruction and plain-clothes variations produced the largest absolute drop, 45 percentage points.

Question 2

states the baseline obedience rate in Milgram's original studies as about 65% cao	**B1**
states that this baseline is used as the comparison point for the variations oe	**B1**

Answer: Milgram's baseline obedience rate in the Yale lab was about 65%; this serves as the comparison point for the variation conditions.

Question 3

identifies the remote-instruction condition as the experimenter giving orders by telephone rather than being physically present oe	**M1**
explains that this reduced the immediacy and authority of the experimenter, weakening pressure on the teacher oe	**M1**
gives the obedience rate for the remote-instruction condition, about 20% cao	**B1**

Answer: In the remote-instruction condition the experimenter gave orders by telephone rather than being present; this reduced obedience to about 20%.

Question 4

identifies the limitation: Milgram's samples were mainly white male volunteers from the USA in the 1960s oe	**M1**
explains how this leads to limited generalisability to women, other cultures, ages or eras oe	**M1**
explains why this matters for interpreting the situational-variable effects, e.g. cultural or temporal differences may change how proximity, location or uniform affect obedience oe	**A1**

Answer: Milgram's samples were mainly white male volunteers from the USA in the 1960s. This limits generalisability because the effects of proximity, location and uniform may differ by gender, culture or historical period, so the size and nature of obedience changes might not apply to other populations.

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