# 5.5 Crime Patterns by Class, Ethnicity and Age: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

**Answer ALL questions. Where a question refers to Item E, use both the Item and your own knowledge in your answer.**

**1** The 'dark figure of crime' refers to...

- ☐ A) crimes committed at night
- ☐ B) the gap between crimes that actually occur and crimes recorded in official statistics
- ☐ C) crimes committed only by children
- ☐ D) the total number of crimes solved by the police

**(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)**

**2** State one limitation of victim surveys as a way of measuring crime.

**(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)**

**3** Explain one reason official crime statistics might undercount crimes committed within private households.

**(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)**

**4** Explain one way researchers try to make self-report studies more reliable.

**(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)**


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# Mark scheme · 5.5 Crime Patterns by Class, Ethnicity and Age: 10-minute Pack

## Question 1

B (the gap between crimes that actually occur and crimes recorded in official statistics) **B1**

**Answer: B**

## Question 2

identifies a genuine limitation, e.g. they cannot capture crimes with no clear individual victim to report them, such as some drug offences **B1**

brief development, e.g. or a victim may not realise, or may not wish to report, that a crime happened **B1**

**Answer: Victim surveys cannot capture 'victimless' crimes with no individual to report them, such as some drug offences, and rely on victims being willing and able to recall and disclose what happened.**

## Question 3

identifies that some offences, e.g. domestic abuse, happen in private and may not be witnessed by anyone outside the household **B1**

development, e.g. victims may feel unable or unwilling to report such offences **B1**

further point, e.g. for example out of fear, shame or dependency on the offender **B1**

concludes official figures likely understate the true scale of such offences **B1**

**Answer: Offences such as domestic abuse happen in private and may not be witnessed by anyone outside the household; victims may feel unable or unwilling to report them, for example out of fear or dependency on the offender, so official figures likely understate their true scale.**

## Question 4

identifies a genuine method, e.g. guaranteeing participants anonymity or confidentiality **B1**

brief development, e.g. to encourage more honest answers about offending **B1**

**Answer: Researchers often guarantee participants anonymity or confidentiality, to encourage more honest answers about offending.**


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