

Both free-response types are scored point by point, and a point needs the term DEFINED and APPLIED to the scenario. Below, each sentence is annotated with what it earns. Notice how short a scoring answer is. 两类简答题都按要点给分: 必须 “定义 + 结合情境”, 示范答案很短。

The concept-application question

Scored one point per term. Answer the terms in the prompt's order, in complete sentences, with no introduction and no conclusion.

I Scenario: Maya is preparing for a piano recital. Explain how each of the following relates to her preparation: (a) massed practice, (b) self-efficacy, (c) the Yerkes-Dodson law.

(a) Massed practice is cramming study or rehearsal into a single long session rather than spacing it. Maya practised for five hours the night before, so she will retain less of the piece than if she had spread the same time across a week. (b) Self-efficacy is a person's belief in their own capability to carry out a task. Because Maya has performed successfully before, her high self-efficacy leads her to persist through the difficult passage rather than abandoning it. (c) The Yerkes-Dodson law states that performance is best at a moderate level of arousal. Maya's mild nervousness before walking on stage is likely to improve her playing, whereas panic would impair it.

Each part is DEFINITION then APPLICATION, in that order. Neither half scores alone, and the application must use Maya, not a generic person.

Parts are labelled and answered in the prompt's order – graders read in order and an out-of-sequence answer risks being missed.

No introduction, no summary. They earn nothing and consume time.

Note that (c) applies the law in BOTH directions, which guards against a grader reading the answer as a one-sided assertion.

The research-design question

Scored across identifying the design, the variables, an ethical or methodological issue, and an interpretation of results. Each is separable – attempt all of them even if unsure.

I A researcher randomly assigns 200 volunteers to receive either a new sleep-hygiene programme or no programme, and measures sleep quality after four weeks. Identify the research method, state the independent and dependent variables, and explain whether a causal conclusion is warranted.

The method is an experiment, because the researcher manipulated a variable and assigned participants to conditions. The independent variable is whether the participant received the sleep-hygiene programme; the dependent variable is the measured sleep quality after four weeks. A causal conclusion is warranted, because random assignment distributes confounding variables such as baseline sleep problems evenly across the groups, so a difference in the outcome can be attributed to the programme rather than to pre-existing differences.

The method is justified, not merely named – ‘because the researcher manipulated a variable’ is the point.

The variables are stated as what was VARIED and what was MEASURED, not as topics.

The causal answer turns on random ASSIGNMENT. Citing random sampling here is the standard error: sampling supports generalisation, assignment supports causation.