

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 3 (2016)

Examiners' report

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

05830–05833, 05871

Unit 25 January 2021 series

Contents

Introduction	3
Unit 25 series overview	4
Question 1 (a)	5
Question 1 (b)	5
Question 1 (c) (i)	6
Question 1 (c) (ii)	6
Question 1 (d)	7
Question 2 (a)	8
Question 2 (b)	9
Question 2 (c)	10
Question 2 (d)	11
Question 2 (e)	12

Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

A full copy of the question paper and the mark scheme can be downloaded from OCR.

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Unit 25 series overview

Centres had prepared their candidates for this examination well. We saw many more responses that fully understood key concepts/words, e.g. ethical practices, relevance, trustworthiness, validity and reliability. However, on the flip side, we saw responses that were not able to differentiate between many of the key words used in this examination, e.g. validity, trustworthiness and reliability. Centres had used all three sources provided in the pre-release material. Centres had directed their candidates to summarise their key findings to good effect.

<i>Candidates who did well on this paper generally did the following:</i>	<i>Candidates who did less well on this paper generally did the following:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • broke down the requirements for the level response questions and ensured coverage of all specified components • were explicit in what aspect they were referring to within the level response questions • wrote in a clear and logical way • showed good understanding of key words. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lacked clarity and provided answers for the level response questions in a haphazard way • did not address the command words • interpreted the question incorrectly and provided responses that therefore did not address the question • lacked understanding of the key words, e.g. validity, relevance and reliability.

Question 1 (a)

- 1 A researcher is investigating the effects of music therapy on people suffering from dementia and on their carers.

The participants in this qualitative study are dementia patients living in their own homes and the relatives who act as their main carers.

- (a)* Evaluate **two** primary research methods that could be used to carry out this study.

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.....[8]

This was a well answered question with the main primary research methods being questionnaires, surveys, interviews and observation. Many candidates were able to provide significant evaluation of both of their chosen methods. We saw a few responses that stated sampling methods rather than primary research methods.

The main error seen was in candidates only providing either positive or negative points; this restricted the marks they could gain to four. The other error seen was in candidates choosing both surveys and questionnaires; only one could be credited as this is a repeat.

Question 1 (b)

- (b) Different sampling strategies can be used to select participants for the study.

Complete the table by deciding whether each statement about sampling strategies is **True** or **False**.

Statement	True or False
Stratified sampling selects data from a whole population.	
In random sampling each participant will have an equal chance of being chosen.	
Opportunity sampling selects participants who are willing and available to take part in the study.	

[3]

The majority of candidates gained maximum marks for this question clearly demonstrating their knowledge of the different sampling methods.

Question 1 (c) (i)

(c) The researcher explains that two of the main purposes of the study are:

- to improve outcomes for dementia patients;
- to measure the impact of music therapy on dementia patients and their carers.

(i) Identify **two** other possible purposes for this study.

1

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2

.....

[2]

This was generally well answered and many were able to confidently identify other possible purposes for this particular study. The main responses provided were improving practice; to increase knowledge and understanding and to improve the outcomes for carers. The main error seen was in candidates giving responses that were a repetition of the question, namely, to measure the impact. While they used specific examples, e.g. improve mood, this was still a repeat of the question.

Question 1 (c) (ii)

(ii) Identify **one** way the study could be used to improve outcomes for dementia patients.

.....

.....[1]

Candidates gave a variety of responses which were linked to improving outcomes for dementia patients. The most common responses were linked to improved mood and general well-being. A few candidates cited the need to inform practice and policy and the need for additional training.

A key error was in in candidates just stating additional funding; this needed to be qualified.

Question 1 (d)

(d)* Informed consent will have to be obtained from the carers and patients before starting the study.

Discuss the **other** ethical practices that should be followed when carrying out the study.

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.....[6]

This question was responded in depth and enabled candidates to show their considerable knowledge of ethical practices. We saw many candidates securing full marks. The main responses provided were avoiding deception, ensuring no harm to the participants, the right to withdraw, ensuring anonymity and confidentiality and making sure that personal information is kept secure.

The command word discuss was fully understood: 'give an account that addresses a range of ideas and arguments'

	OCR support	The requirements for the command words can be found in the OCR guide to examinations booklet on our website.
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Question 2 (a)

2 This question relates to the **pre-release** material and your **secondary research**.

(a) Identify **two** aspects of **relevance** and **two** aspects of **trustworthiness** that you took into account when selecting your secondary research.

Relevance:

1

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2

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[2]

Trustworthiness:

1

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2

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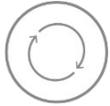
[2]

Candidates, in the main, were able to demonstrate their knowledge of these two terms. The main responses that were seen were:

Relevance: similar topic to their pre-release, similar time period, use of key terms and up to date information.

Trustworthiness: verifiable resources, peer reviewed, academic sources of information and reputable author or organisation.

Some candidates seemingly were not able to differentiate between the two terms.

	<p>AfL</p>	<p>To help candidates distinguish between these two terms and, indeed with other terms linked to research methods, a mix and match activity like this could be useful:</p> <p>Match the following statements to the corresponding key term:</p> <p><u>Key terms</u></p> <p>Verifiable Peer reviewed Similar topic Reputable author or organisation Use of key terms</p> <p>Relevance:</p> <p>Trustworthiness:</p>
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Question 2 (b)

(b)* Explain how you carried out your secondary research with reference to:

- locating your sources
- using your sources

[10]

Locating sources was completed better than using sources. When developing responses on using sources candidates missed the point and started to explain their results.

The most common responses were:

Locating sources: the use of academic web searches, e.g. google scholar and the use of key terms.

Using sources: to make accurate notes and develop themes, original ideas and to make comparisons.

Another error seen was in candidates developing responses which centred around the validity, relevance, reliability and the trustworthiness of sources.

	<p>AfL</p>	<p>When confronted with a level response question that has two distinct aspects to cover candidates should develop two paragraphs and clearly state, at the start of each paragraph, which aspect they are covering; we saw many responses that did not clarify what aspect they were explaining, and this meant that candidates could not reach Level 3 as their response could not be deemed to be 'well developed, clear and logically structured'.</p>
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Question 2 (c)

- (c) Outline how you **presented** your secondary research, in response to your chosen article, for each of the following aspects:

Building an argument

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Avoiding plagiarism

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[6]

Avoiding plagiarism was completed far more effectively than building an argument.

Candidates were not aware of how to build an argument; many gave results of their research instead. Some candidates were able to pick up 1 mark through stating that a conclusion should be present.

When outlining plagiarism the candidates were very knowledgeable and many scored maximum marks. The most common responses provided were the use of quotes, to use their own words and to make sure any source material was referenced.

Question 2 (d)

(d)* Analyse your secondary source material with reference to:

- validity
- reliability

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.....[10]

A range of responses was seen to this question. Many had considerable knowledge linked to both key terms as either a positive and/or negative. The most common responses were:

Validity: measuring what it intended to measure, peer reviewed, credible source, social desirability, bias of the researcher/publication and trustworthy.

Reliability: qualified/expert author, consistent with other articles, credible source, lack of objective measures and being out of date.

Once again centres should direct their candidates to develop two paragraphs and make it clear at the start which key word they are addressing.

The most common error was in looking at two separate secondary sources and making the same points regarding validity and reliability; the same points would be annotated as a repeat, therefore the candidates may have limited the number of key points and therefore be given a lower mark.

Question 2 (e)

(e)* Discuss the possible implications of your findings from your secondary research, with regards to **one** of the following:

- health care settings and practices
OR
- social care settings and practices
OR
- childcare settings and practices.

.....

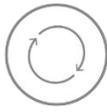
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.....[10]

Many candidates were able to discuss many differing implications of their findings. The main implications provided were funding, resource development, work practices, further research and training.

The main error was in candidates misreading the question and writing about their findings.

	<p>AfL</p>	<p>Centres should encourage their candidates to de-construct questions before writing their response; they should circle the command word and underline the key focus of the question (implication – in this instance). By doing this it may focus their response rather than going off on a tangent; many focused in on the key word findings.</p>
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