

Section C

Research Methods

Answer **all** questions in this section.

1 1

A researcher wanted to compare the effectiveness of two therapies for young offenders who had been identified as having anger management issues. Offenders, who were all sentenced to two years in a Young Offenders' Institution, were asked to volunteer to take part in an anger management programme. Fifty volunteers were randomly allocated to Group 1 (Therapy A) or Group 2 (Therapy B).

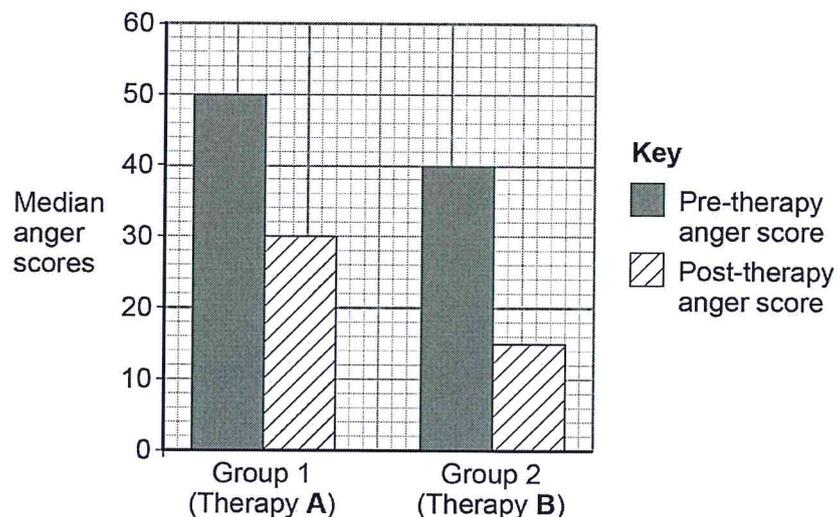
Each participant's anger was assessed before and after therapy. For the **pre-therapy anger score** they completed an Anger Scale questionnaire and their responses were scored. A high score indicated extreme anger and a low score indicated mild anger.

For the next eight weeks, participants attended weekly sessions for either Therapy A or Therapy B.

For the **post-therapy anger score**, at the end of the treatment period, participants completed the same Anger Scale questionnaire.

The data obtained are shown in **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1 Median anger scores before and after therapy for Group 1 (Therapy A) and Group 2 (Therapy B)



Question 11 continues on the next page



1 1 . 1

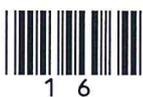
The researcher used volunteers for this study. Outline **one** disadvantage of using volunteers to take part in this study.

[2 marks]

1 1 . 2

Explain how the researcher could allocate the volunteers randomly to the conditions of the experiment.

[3 marks]



1 1 . 3 Write a suitable hypothesis for this study.

[3 marks]

1 1 . 4 What do the data in **Figure 1** seem to suggest?

[3 marks]

Question 11 continues on the next page



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1 1 . 7

Give **one** disadvantage of using median values as seen in **Figure 1** to represent the anger scores of participants.

[1 mark]

1 1 . 8

Explain how demand characteristics might have occurred in this study.

[2 marks]

1 1 . 9

The researcher used a questionnaire to assess the anger scores of the offenders. Briefly discuss **one** strength of using questionnaires in research.

[2 marks]

24

END OF QUESTIONS

