**Q1.**

A student showed participants a film of a car accident. After watching the film, each participant was asked to write down what they had seen. The student was surprised to see that the descriptions of the accident were quite different.

The student’s psychology teacher suggested that the participants’ recall might be improved by using cognitive interview techniques.

Suggest **two** cognitive interview techniques that could be used to improve participants’ recall of the film.

**(Total 4 marks)**

**Q2.**

Psychologists have carried out research into the use of cognitive interviews. One possible ethical issue which might arise during this research is protection of participants from harm. Explain how psychologists could deal with this ethical issue.

**(Total 3 marks)**

**Q3.**

Traditionally, police have questioned eye witnesses using the standard interview procedure. This involves a period of free recall about an event, followed by specific questions. However, an increasing number of police forces are now using the cognitive interview technique.

Explain how a cognitive interview differs from a standard interview.

**(Total 4 marks)**

**Q4.**

Cognitive interviews have been developed to improve witness recall. Identify and explain **two** techniques used in the cognitive interview.

**(Total 6 marks)**

**Q5.**

An American space shuttle exploded soon after it was launched. All of the astronauts on board were killed. Crowds of people were watching, including friends and relatives of the astronauts. Six months after the explosion, a student decided to investigate the accuracy of some of the eyewitnesses’ memory of this event.

(a)     Outline how the student could have used a cognitive interview to investigate this event. Include **at least one** example of what the participants would be asked to do.

**(4)**

(b)     Explain how anxiety might have affected eyewitness testimony of this event. Refer to psychological research in your answer.

**(6)**

**(Total 10 marks)**

**Q6.**

Jenny was standing at a bus stop talking on her mobile phone. The weather was wet and cold. Two men in the bus queue started arguing. One of the men was stabbed and badly injured. Later that day the police questioned Jenny, using a cognitive interview. They asked her to report everything she could remember about the incident even if it seemed unimportant.

Apart from ‘report everything’, explain how the police could use a cognitive interview to investigate what Jenny could remember.

In your answer you must refer to details from the passage above.

**(Total 4 marks)**

**Q7.**

Some psychologists argue that there is always more information about an event in a person’s memory than can be recalled at any one time. This means that eye-witness recall can be improved by using certain techniques and methods.

Describe and evaluate **at least one** way of improving eye-witness recall. Refer to evidence in your answer.

**(Total 12 marks)**

**Q8.**

Some psychologists argue that there is always more information about an event in a person’s memory than can be recalled at any one time. This means that eye-witness recall can be improved by using certain techniques and methods.

Describe and evaluate **at least one** way of improving eye-witness recall. Refer to evidence in your answer.

**(Total 16 marks)**

**Q9.**

(a)     One technique used in cognitive interviews is ‘report everything’. When using this technique, the police officer in this investigation read the following instructions to the participants:

“Please tell me everything you can remember about what you saw in the film. Do not leave anything out, even the small details you think may be unimportant.”

Identify **one other** technique which could have been used by the police officer in this cognitive interview. Write down the instructions that he could have read out to the participants.

**(3)**

(b)     The psychologist also recorded the number of correct items recalled and the number of incorrect items recalled in each type of interview. The following results were obtained:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Cognitive Interview** | **Standard Interview** |
| **Mean number of correct items recalled** | 45 | 32 |
| **Mean number of incorrect items recalled** | 8 | 8 |

From these results, what might the psychologist conclude about the effectiveness of cognitive interviews?

**(2)**

**(Total 5 marks)**

**Q10.**

Outline how a cognitive interview can be used to improve the accuracy of eyewitness testimony (EWT).

**(Total 4 marks)**

**Q11.**

Danielle was walking down the high street when she witnessed a crime. A young man attacked an elderly woman. After a struggle, the man ran away with the woman’s handbag. Danielle and another couple of witnesses stayed with the woman until the police arrived.

Explain how the police could use the cognitive interview to help Danielle’s recall of the event.

**(Total 6 marks)**

**Q12.**

Explain how the cognitive interview is used to improve the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

**(Total 6 marks)**

**Q13.**

Identify **and** outline **two** techniques that may be used in a cognitive interview.

**(Total 4 marks)**

**Q14.**

Below are five evaluative statements about the cognitive interview. Which **two** statements are correct?

The cognitive interview…

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | can only be used in Western cultures. |  |
| **B** | takes longer than the standard interview. |  |
| **C** | involves unethical treatment of witnesses. |  |
| **D** | requires special training of police officers. |  |
| **E** | cannot be used to interview children. |  |

**(Total 2 marks)**

**Q15.**

A psychologist was at a concert where someone threw a bottle onto the stage and seriously injured one of the band members. The psychologist decided to use this incident to investigate the accuracy of eye witness testimony. She asked 10 people who saw the bottle being thrown, if they would allow her to interview them about this. A week later she interviewed each witness separately in a quiet room and asked them the same closed questions about what they had seen. She recorded their answers. It took her two and a half hours in total to interview the 10 witnesses.

(a)     Calculate how many hours it would have taken the psychologist to interview all 1000 people who were at the event. Show your workings.

**(2)**

(b)     Identify **one** type of data the psychologist collected in this study. Explain your answer.

**(2)**

(c)     Investigator effects may influence this study. Explain how the investigation might be modified to reduce these effects.

**(2)**

(d)     The psychologist submitted a report of her investigation to a journal for peer review. What would she expect the process to involve?

**(2)**

**(Total 8 marks)**

**Q16.**

Outline techniques used in the cognitive interview **and** discuss the effectiveness of these techniques on the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

**(Total 8 marks)**

**Q17.**

A teacher showed her Year 12 Psychology class a video clip of a girl shopping in a busy high street with her boyfriend. Near the end of the clip, the girl had her handbag stolen by a man in a black jacket. Later, 10 of the students were interviewed about the events in the video clip using a cognitive interview. The remaining 9 students were interviewed using a standard interview.

(a)  One technique used in the cognitive interview is that witnesses are asked to ‘report everything’.

Identify **one other** technique that could have been used by the teacher in the cognitive interview. Write down the instructions that the teacher might have read out to the students when using this technique.

**(3)**

(b)  Explain how the study might have been improved by using a random sample of students from Year 12.

**(4)**

Each student was assigned a score based on the accuracy of their answers to the questions in the interview. The results can be seen in the table below.

|  |
| --- |
| **Accuracy scores for students in the standard and cognitive interview conditions** |
| **Standard interview condition** | **Cognitive interview condition** |
| **Student** | **Accuracy score** | **Student** | **Accuracy score** |
| 1 | 8 | 10 | 13 |
| 2 | 8 | 11 | 13 |
| 3 | 6 | 12 | 11 |
| 4 | 9 | 13 | 8 |
| 5 | 10 | 14 | 11 |
| 6 | 7 | 15 | 14 |
| 7 | 9 | 16 | 11 |
| 8 | 8 | 17 | 13 |
| 9 | 8 | 18 | 15 |
|   |   | 19 | 18 |

(c)  Calculate the mean accuracy score for the cognitive interview condition.

Give your answer to **two** significant figures.

**(3)**

(d)  Briefly outline **one** limitation of the cognitive interview.

**(2)**

**(Total 12 marks)**

**Q18.**

Which **two** of **A**, **B**, **C**, **D** and **E** are associated with the cognitive interview technique?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | Alter the perspective |  |
| **B** | Change the speaker |  |
| **C** | Match the direction |  |
| **D** | Remove the context |  |
| **E** | Reverse the order |  |

**(Total 2 marks)**

**Q19.**

Evaluate the cognitive interview technique as a way of improving the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

**(Total 6 marks)**