

3.1 Fieldwork rehearsal and reflection: supported rehearsal

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Total: 6 marks

Objective

Supported preparation: Design a focused observation with consent and privacy; Separate description, interpretation and critical reflection in SL limited fieldwork or HL inquiry. This is original rehearsal, not completion of the assessed task.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Before observation, state a focused question, a recording unit, a sampling period and approved consent/privacy arrangements. Separate description from interpretation. Actual fieldwork and school approval cannot be supplied by a model answer.

Original source / task evidence

Original notes: “At 12:10, four members sat near the door. The observer knew three of them.” Interpret cautiously and improve a plan about seating and belonging.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Fieldwork rehearsal and reflection

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The description records a location and count. Friendship, status and exclusion are hypotheses. Repeat observations at comparable times and ask voluntary, non-leading questions where approved. Record how the observer’s friendships influence access and interpretation. Do not label identifiable people or assume consent from silence.

2 Practice

2.1 For the worked case, identify the evidence and a conclusion it can support. Explain one material limit. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The second seating observation breaks the initial pattern. How should the analysis respond? Give a reasoned answer, evidence or method, and a relevant qualification. [3]

Solutions

2.1 The description records a location and count. Friendship, status and exclusion are hypotheses. Repeat observations at comparable times and ask voluntary, non-leading questions where approved. Record how the observer's friendships influence access and interpretation. Do not label identifiable people or assume consent from silence. Authored points for identifying relevant evidence, explaining a supported inference and a material limit.

3.1 Retain the exception and compare timing, activity and participants. Revise a general friendship claim to a bounded observed pattern unless further evidence supports it. A discrepant observation can test the interpretation; deleting it would conceal evidence. Authored points for a relevant judgement, reason tied to the case and justified qualification or method. Accept a supported alternative.