

Worksheet 9: Designing experiments

Answer each question based on the research situation from the following Specimen Paper 4 question:

Schizophrenia can be treated biochemically with drugs, such as antipsychotics, but they are not always effective. Plan an experiment to investigate the effectiveness of antipsychotic drugs to treat schizophrenia.

(Extract from 9990 Psychology 2024 Specimen Paper 4, Question 9)

- 1 Complete the following table including details of how you would operationalise the independent and dependent variables when planning this experiment:

Type of variable	Name of variable	Operationalised variable
Independent		
Dependent		

- 2 Write a sentence explaining how each of the experimental design features could be used in this study:

- independent measures

- matched pairs

- repeated measures

- 3 Give an example of one participant variable, including how it could be controlled in this study. An example of an uncontrolled variable has been completed as an example:

Variable	Example	Way to control
Uncontrolled	The two types of drugs might look different	Ensure experimental drug and placebo drug look the same
Participant		