



### 1. Variables

There are three types of variables – independent variables, dependent variables, and extraneous variables.  
Independent variables are the ones that are changed by the experimenter.  
Dependent variables are the ones that the experimenter is measuring to see whether the change in the independent variable made a difference.  
Extraneous variables are variables which can impact the results (dependent variable) but are not supposed to, the experimenter either hasn't foreseen them or controlled them. Sometimes they can't be fully controlled or prevented.  
Independent and dependent variables should always be operationalised – this means it should be stated clearly and specifically how they're identified and measured.

### 3. Experimental designs

An experimental design is the 'format' which was used to group participants. The types we've learnt are:  
Independent measures: two or more separate groups do separate experimental conditions – each group only does one condition, then their results are compared.  
Repeated measures: all of the participants take part in all of the conditions; so the same participants are doing each of the conditions involved.



### 2. Experimental methods

An experimental method is the type of 'environment' used to carry out the experiment in. The types we've learnt are:  
Lab experiment – carried out in a controlled environment  
Field experiment – carried out in a naturalistic and real environment

### 4. Aims and hypothesis

A hypothesis is used to make a specific prediction of what will happen in an experiment, but it needs to be in a certain format so that the IV and DV are clearly stated in a formal manner (and are operationalised).  
An aim simply states WHY the research is being conducted – what's it aiming to achieve/find out and about what?

### 5. Sampling

This is how participants are selected for experiments. There are several ways to gather a participant sample:

Random sampling: a completely none biased and random sample  
Opportunity sampling: participants selected locally at the experimenter's convenience  
Stratified sampling: a sample that represents the ratios of different people from the target population  
Systematic sampling: a sample selected by choosing people every particular integer from a list

Glue here

Y9 Psychology Knowledge Organiser  
Autumn 1 - Research methods



Homework

Week			
1			
2		Experimental design	
3		Experimental methods	
4		IV and DV	
5		Hypothesis	
6		Extraneous variables	
7		Sampling	
8		Research methods	

Research methods will be tested at home on a weekly basis via Quizlet