



OBEDIENCE

Questions on Units 1.1 – 1.7 on Obedience

1 Milgram decided to investigate obedience by conducting several laboratory experiments.

(a) Explain the following types of obedience:

(i) compliance

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(ii) conformity

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(i) internalising

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(6 marks)

(b) What triggered Milgram's interest into investigating the effects of obedience to authority?

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(3 marks)

(c) State **three** ways in which participants were deceived by the experiment.

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(3 marks)

- (d) In the original Milgram experiment, 65% of people continued giving shocks until the end of the experiment, giving a 450 volt lethal shock. State and explain **two** reasons that Milgram, or other psychologists, have offered as possible explanations for such a high level of obedience.

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(6 marks)

- (e) The biggest criticism of Milgram's experiments into obedience was on ethical grounds.

Evaluate the ethics of Milgram's experiments.

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(10 marks)

Total: 28 marks

2 After Milgram has evaluated the results of his experiment, he put forward his agency theory of obedience.

(a) Explain the following terms associated with the agency theory:

(i) agentic state

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(ii) autonomous state

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(4 marks)

(b) State and explain **one** criticism of Milgram's theory of obedience.

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(2 marks)

(c) Explain the link Milgram identified between his agency theory of obedience and evolution theory.

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(4 marks)

Total: 10 marks

3 Meeus and Raaijmakers conducted their own similar experiments into obedience over twenty years after the Milgram experiments had taken place.

(a) Use the figures below to complete the table:

10% 92% 36% 23%

Type of study	Percentage of people obeying (Milgram 1963 and 1974)	Percentage of people obeying (Meeus and Raaijmakers 1986)
Main study	65%	
Experimenter absent condition		
Two peers rebel condition		16%

(4 marks)

(b) What form of punishment did Meeus' and Raaijmakers' participants use on their subjects, and why was it made different to those of the shocks used in Milgram's experiment?

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(3 marks)

(c) Meeus and Raaijmakers came up with some conclusions from their experiment.

Explain why each of the following conclusions drawn from the experiment explains the high levels of obedience in the experiment.

(i) physical violence has a more immediate impact on psychological harm

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(ii) the victim is more dependent on the outcome in Meeus' and Raaijmakers' experiment

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(4 marks)

Total: 11 marks